

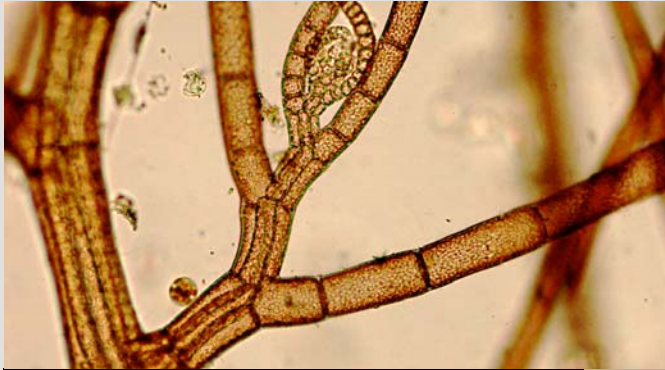
Dasysiphonia japonica

Asian red algae,
Dasysiphonia

Invasive to Maine

Coastal
Rocky Intertidal

Growth Pattern



Kathy Ann Miller, Shoals Marine Laboratory

PERMITTED USE

Look for a filamentous (hair-like) red algae. The bushy, feathery fronds may be up to 60 mm long. The tips of branches may have a small clustered bunch shaped like the cross-section of a flower.

Thallus (Body)



Kathy Ann Miller, Shoals Marine Laboratory

PERMITTED USE

Look for thin filaments that have an irregular branching pattern. Side branches are single celled and the main branches are multicelled.






Color



Red Riots, South Portland HS

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Look for a reddish-brown algae. When it's washed up on beaches, it often appears reddish pink. This algae doesn't hold its shape out of water.

GROWTH PATTERN	THALLUS CROSS-SECTION
 DICHOTOMOUS GROWTH	 ROUND
 AXIAL GROWTH	 FLATTENED
	 FLATTENED WITH MIDRIB

Other Information



Red Riots, South Portland HS

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Heterosiphonia japonica is native to Japan. It was first found on the east coast of the U.S. in 2009 in Rhode Island.

Similar Species

Filamentous red algae species look a lot alike. You need a microscope to look at the cell structure. Under the microscope look for main branches that are multiple cells thick (polysiphonous) with side branches coming off that are one cell thick (monosiphonous). This species used to be Heterosiphonia

Did You Know?

Heterosiphonia japonica typically grows at depths of 6-22m on protected and exposed (to wave action) shores. When it detaches and washes up on shore, it can form large, decaying, mats that smell like rotten eggs.

Researched and created by:

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