

Gracilaria vermiculophylla

SYSTEM

Marine

DESCRIPTION

Gracilaria vermiculophylla is a red macroalga that is cartilaginous, cylindrical and up to 50 cm long. It is coarsely branched, often profusely so. G. vermiculophylla can be found as loose-lying thalli or attached to small stones or shells. Red algae are often found in the vegetative state, and characterisation of reproductive structures is often necessary for correct identification of Gracilaria species (AlgaeBase 2010; Liao & Hommersand 2003; Nyberg et al. 2009; Rueness 2005).

NATIVE RANGE:

ASEAN: Viet Nam

World: China, Japan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation

KNOWN INTRODUCED RANGE

ASEAN:

World: Atlantic-Northeast, Canada, Europe, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Atlantic-Northwest, Denmark, France, Italy, Morocco, Pacific-Northeast, Spain, United States

PATHWAY

Transport – Ship/boat ballast water
Fisheries

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Spread is likely to occur on vectors such as fishing and leisure boats (Nyberg 2007 in Nyberg et al. 2009). Fishing gear (Nyberg et al. 2009).

IMPACTS

Gracilaria vermiculophylla inhibits the growth and survival of native algae through competition (Council of Europe 2009; Hamman et al. n.d.). G. vermiculophylla is reported to be a problem in fishing industries through fouling of nets (Freshwater et al. 2000).

Source: Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2015. Species profile Gracilaria vermiculophylla. Available from: <http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1698> [Accessed 09 September 2019]



Photo by Ignacio Bárbara accessed at <https://img.algaebase.org/images/5964B9371dd0025BB9QYG1D2DD28/JBnHab6XiqE2.jpg> on 12 September 2019