

Undaria pinnatifida Wakame

Phylum: Ochrophyta
Class: Phaeophyceae
Order: Laminariales
Family: Alariaceae

Synonymised Taxa

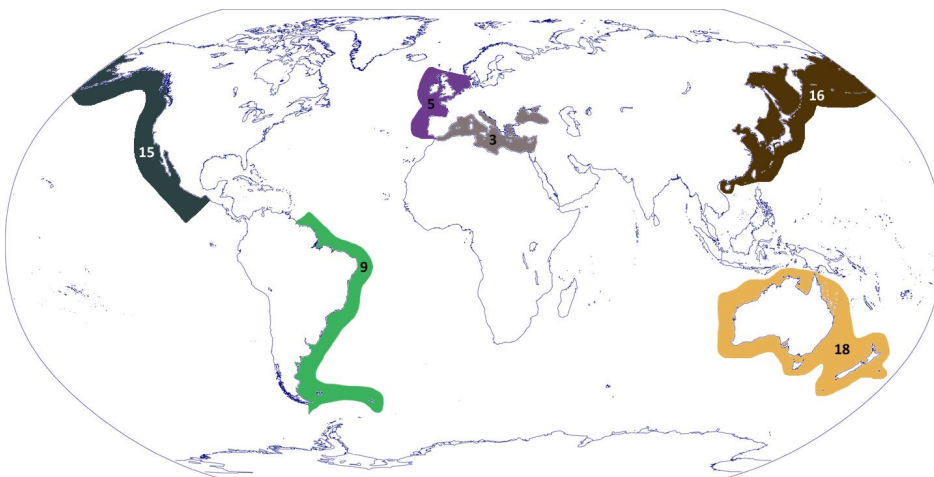
Alaria pinnatifida Harvey, 1860
Ulopteryx pinnatifida (Harvey) Kjellman, 1885

Larval Period

This alga has two separate life stages. The macroscopic stage (sporophyte) produces microscopic zoospores during the Spring/Summer months. These zoospores settle and grow into the microscopic stage (gametophyte) and release eggs and sperm during the winter months. The sperm and eggs fertilise and grow into a macroscopic plant. The dispersal of the fertilised cells are subject to optimal conditions and water currents.

Distribution (Bioregions)

Native: 16 **Introduced:** 3, 5, 9, 15, 18 (NZ, Tas, Vic)



Habitat

This alga will inhabit the rocky intertidal zone out to 20 m water depth. It's mostly found in ocean coast areas of medium to low wave action.

It will grow on any hard surface, including artificial structures.

Temperature Tolerance

Optimal temperature is below 12°C. Can survive in 0 to 27°C

Salinity Range

20 to 34 PSU

Size

Up to 3 m in length.

List

- CCIMPE
- WA species of concern
- Woodside

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Key Features

- Brown in colour;
- The **hold fast** consists of **numerous branching smaller haptera**;
- The stipe is lighter brown and extends from the hold fast;
- In mature specimens, there are two golden brown, **fluted sporophylls** either side of the base of the stipe;
- The basal section of the stipe is naked and forms into the midrib further up and extends the full length of the thallus;
- The **thin, single pinnatifid blade** extends out from the midrib. In **juvenile specimens the blade is undivided**.

