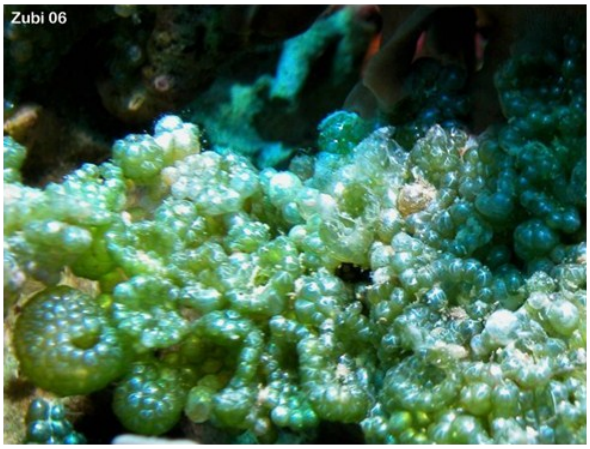
Dictyosphaeria cavernosa

Green algae



Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
    - In nutrient enriched and overfished areas, this algae displays invasive qualities; it easily absorbs nutrients, grows quickly, and smothers coral
2. Invasive Potential
    - The alga uses coral and limestone outcrops as an anchorage and proceeds to overgrow them, killing the corals by smothering
3. Geographic Extent
    - Locally patchy
4. Management Difficulty
    - Sewage diversion has decreased biomass of D. cavernosa in Hawaii

Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Hawai'i
2. Introduced: Hawai'i (native transplant)
3. Habitats
    - Marine, intertidal zones, coral reefs, benthic
    - Tide pools, submerged substrates

Invasion Pathways

1. Hull/Surface fouling

Non-Native Locations

1. 152- Hawaiian Islands

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer et al. 2008. Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity. Frontiers in ecology and the environment. Vol. 6, No. 9, pp. 485-492.
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3. http://species-identification.org/species.php?species_group=caribbean_diving_guide&id=492
4. http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/What%20plants%20look%20like/Plants%20Dictyosphaeria%20cavernosa.htm
5. http://www.starfish.ch/photos/plants-Pflanzen/Dictyosphaeria-cavernosa1.jpg