Gracilaria tikvahiae

Red algae

General

- 12-15 cm tall, can range from dark green to shades of red and brown

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
   - Although not yet established as an invasive species outside mariculture
   - It is apparent that the potential to become one is great
   - Associated with eutrophication
   - Able to reproduce rapidly and adapt to a wide range of habitats
2. Invasive potential
   - Has high potential for invasion if it escapes from current mariculture operations
3. Geographic extent
   - Locally patchy

Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Florida (origin, not original native habitat)
2. Introduced: Hawai'i
3. Habitat
   - Marine, intertidal zones less than 1 m
   - Attached to limestone and basalt substrates
   - Found in protected and high-energy intertidal habitats in estuaries and bays to 10 m deep
   - May grow unattached or attached to rocks or coral rubble

Invasion Pathways

2. Aquaculture and mariculture activities

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.* 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
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3. http://www.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive_algae/rhodo/gracilaria_tikvahiae.htm
4. http://www.algaebase.org/search/species/detail/?species_id=683