



## Hypnea musciformis

### Red Algae

#### Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
  - Forms large monospecific mats; easily outcompetes native algae by reproducing rapidly; causes foul odors when large mats wash ashore
2. Invasive Potential
  - Has rapid growth rate, ability to epiphytize other algae and fragments easily
  - Drifting fragments reattach to other algae, especially Sargassum, which can become detached during storms and float long distances, carrying the epiphytic *H. musciformis* with it
  - Introduced for mariculture to Kane'ohe Bay in 1974 and spread to other islands by 1982
3. Geographic Extent
  - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
  - A recovery rate of 87% each month after harvest
  - Scientists must overcome this extremely rapid recovery rate



#### Geography and Habitat

1. Native: United States (Florida)
2. Introduced: Hawai'i, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Florida (native transplant)
3. Habitats
  - Marine, coral reefs, intertidal zones, also free floating, subtidal zones

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Hull/Surface fouling
2. Natural spread
3. Stocking in open water - cultivation

#### Non-Native Locations

1. 43- Northern Gulf of Mexico
2. 64- Eastern Caribbean
3. 65- Greater Antilles
4. 70- Floridian
5. 152- Hawaiian Islands

#### Sources

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3. [http://hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive\\_algae/rhodo/hypnea\\_musciformis.htm](http://hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive_algae/rhodo/hypnea_musciformis.htm)
4. <http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=728&fr=1&sts=>
5. [http://www2.bishopmuseum.org/algae/images/Hypnea\\_musciformis2.jpg](http://www2.bishopmuseum.org/algae/images/Hypnea_musciformis2.jpg)