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Algae Sample from Hurricane Island

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Algae Sample from Hurricane Island

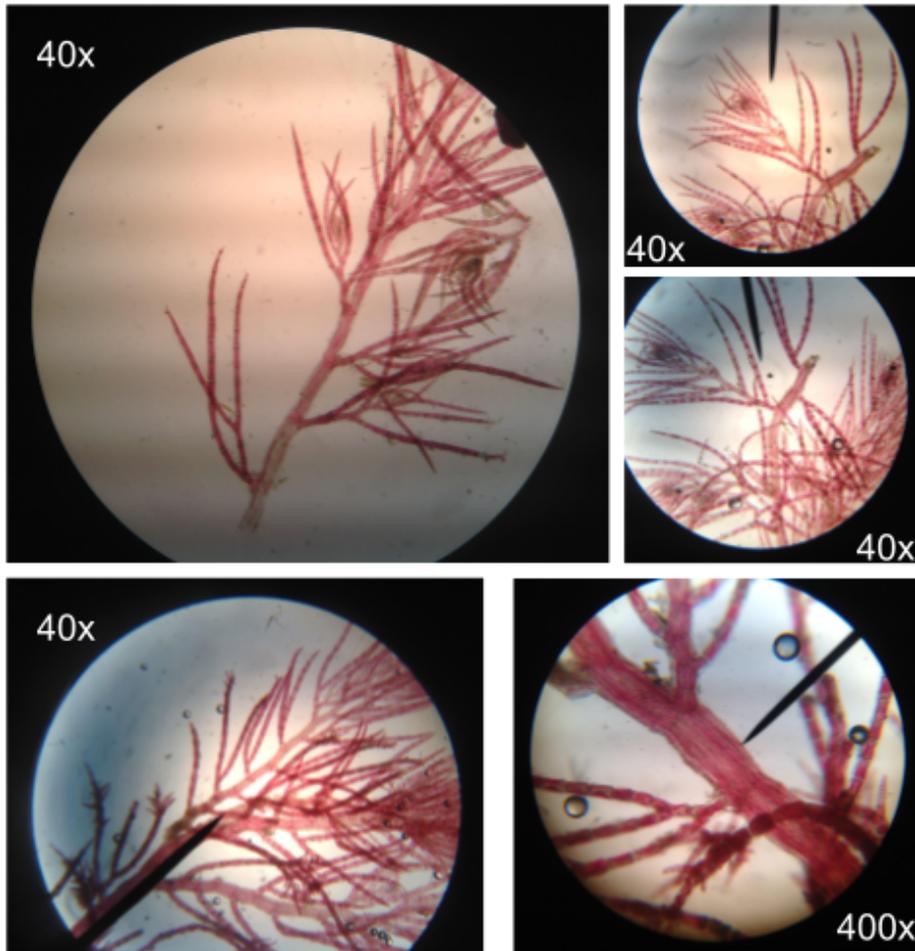
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Macroalgae is the base of the ocean food web. Macroalgae, especially kelp, is found at coral reefs in bunches. *Dasysiphonia japonica* is taking away space for macroalgae to grow. The *Dasysiphonia* is taking the space where the Kelp is growing so the amount of kelp on the ocean floor is decreasing. When *Dasysiphonia* washes up on the beach, it makes the beach stinky. (Naishadham, 2020)

Dasysiphonia is harming the whole ocean food web because small ocean critters don't have anything to eat anymore. *Dasysiphonia* got here by boat from different countries. The way that you can tell if red algae are *Dasysiphonia* or not is by looking at the cell patterns. If the cell lines are straight then it is *Dasysiphonia*. This sample will interest scientists because it shows that *Dasysiphonia* is still around Hurricane Island.

I found *Dasysiphonia*, a bad algae, but there were also healthy algae in the sample we got from Hurricane Island, 44.0345° N, 68.8901° W. Two years ago a sample that was taken from that same location also had *Dasysiphonia*.

These samples were taken to record information in that spot for this year. Our sample from Hurricane Island was taken on November 17, 2019. DMR researchers picked up an algae sample and we got a small portion of it.



All of these photos are of *Dasysiphonia japonica*. I looked at *Dasysiphonia* through three different microscope lenses. These pictures above are some of my best pictures that I took. This sample was taken on November 11, 2019. I can tell that these are *Dasysiphonia* because of the axial branching. I surprised that there was so much *Dasysiphonia* in our sample. I expected less than there was. I originally thought that there would just be a little bit of *Dasysiphonia*.

Works Cited

Naishadham, Suman. "Rotten, Smelly Algae Plagues Some Mexican Beaches." *The Wall Street Journal*, Dow Jones & Company, 27 July 2019, www.wsj.com/articles/whats-brown-rotten-and-smelly-mexico-wishes-it-didnt-know-11564225200.