



Avrainvillea amadelpha

Green algae, Leather mudweed

Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
 - This species quickly overtakes substrate in Hawai'i, creating habitat for filter-feeders
 - Leads to a build up of sediment and a mud layer upon the sand which changes the ecology of the area
2. Invasive Potential
 - Capable of inter-island (Hawaiian) dispersal - unknown if through natural mechanisms (currents) or through anthropogenic vectors (shipping)
 - First observed in 1981 off southern Oahu, *A. amadelpha* was reported in discrete patches less than 0.1 m². Presently, aerial coverage of this alga has reached 100% cover over extensive (>50 m²) areas previously occupied by a patchwork of seagrass beds and seaweeds (limu)
3. Geographic Extent
 - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
 - Replacing removed *A. amadelpha* with *Gracilaria salicornia* is proving successful in Kaneohe Bay, Oahu



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Southwest Pacific - Fiji
2. Introduced: Hawai'i
3. Habitats
 - Marine, benthic
 - Abundant in habitats of shallow, sandy substrate with low water motion

Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments
2. Natural spread
3. 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://www.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/invasive_algae/chloro/avrainvillea_amadelpha.htm
4. <http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/gradstud/smith/websites/avrain.jpg>