

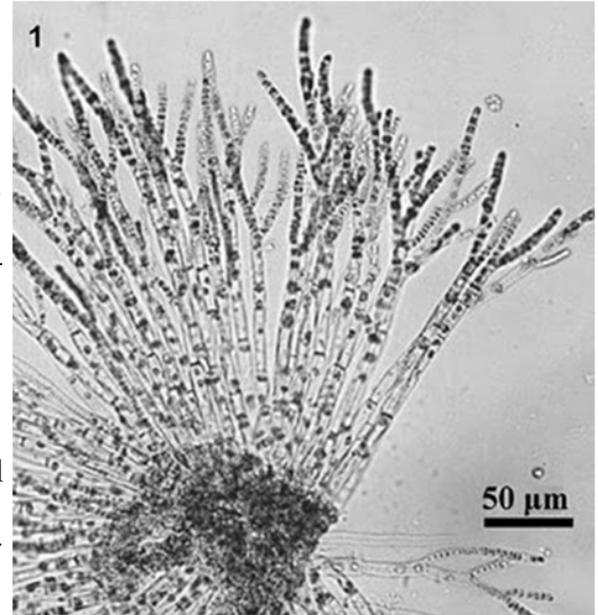


## Microspongium globosum

### Brown Alga, Phaeophyta

#### Threat Scores

1. Ecological Impact
  - Observed to grow on the cryptogenic brown alga *Delamarea attenuata*, attached to oyster floats at Tatitlek, Alaska
  - Algal invasions can be of great concern because introduced species can have serious ecological consequences by competing with native macroalgae
  - Introduced species can eventually lead to changes in community structure and food webs
2. Invasive Potential
  - Brown Alga can typically reproduce and disperse from fragmentation of plant parts that then can be carried by ocean currents or humans
  - Short distance dispersal can occur by the gametes (sperm and eggs) being carried on ocean currents
  - As fouling organisms, brown algae can have ecological consequences when introduced to new habitats
3. Geographic Extent
  - Locally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
  - There are no known eradication techniques currently being used for brown alga



#### Geography and Habitat

1. Native: North Atlantic and Japan
2. Introduced: Alaska
3. Habitats
  - Marine, aquaculture, host, intertidal zones
  - Inhabit intertidal and subtidal zones of coastal waters, typically attached to rock, coral, or other firm surfaces. Collected in midlittoral zone, as epiphyte on *Cladophora*, *Polysiphonia*, *Bryopsis*, and old blades of *Zostera* in Sea of Marmara

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Ballast water and sediments
2. Stocking in open water
3. Natural spread
4. Short-term disturbances that facilitate introduction

#### Non-Native Locations

1. 54- Gulf of Alaska

#### 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.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>

3. [http://4.bp.blogspot.com/\\_VA6LePZ6KNY/SlrPgfxuzmI/AAAAAAAAABsU/kI6x3d5dDkc/s320/Microspongium+globosum.JPG](http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_VA6LePZ6KNY/SlrPgfxuzmI/AAAAAAAAABsU/kI6x3d5dDkc/s320/Microspongium+globosum.JPG)
4. [http://www.algaebase.org/search/species/detail/?species\\_id=277](http://www.algaebase.org/search/species/detail/?species_id=277)