

Some Marine Algae on Japanese Tsunami Debris

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The Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami of March 2011 generated nearly 1.5 million tons of floating debris. After 1-5 years of drifting with the currents across the Pacific, many debris items reached the NE Pacific coast carrying Japanese marine species that could colonize our shores. More than 84 marine algal species have been identified on debris and 61% of these have been reported to already occur in the NE Pacific. These are some of the first algal species that I encountered. (* = not yet known in Oregon)



Saccharina

japonica f.

angustata*







Saccharina japonica*

