

Comparing wakame with native species

Due to its colouring and life stages, it is possible to confuse wakame with native seaweed species, especially during the young stages. **The images below show common native seaweed species.**

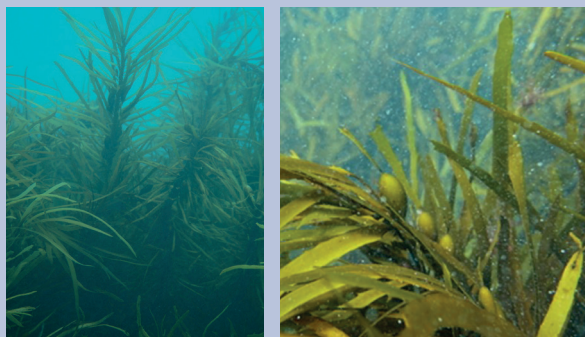
Common kelp *Ecklonia radiata*

- Blades are rough
- no midrib
- no ruffle near the base.



Phyllospora comosa

- Blades terminate at the base
- branches close together
- no midrib
- no ruffle near the base
- sawtooth edged fronds.



For more information
pir.sa.gov.au/aquatic-pests



Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries
and Regions

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Wakame (Japanese seaweed)

Undaria pinnatifida



Government
of South Australia
Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

Stay alert for wakame in South Australian waters.

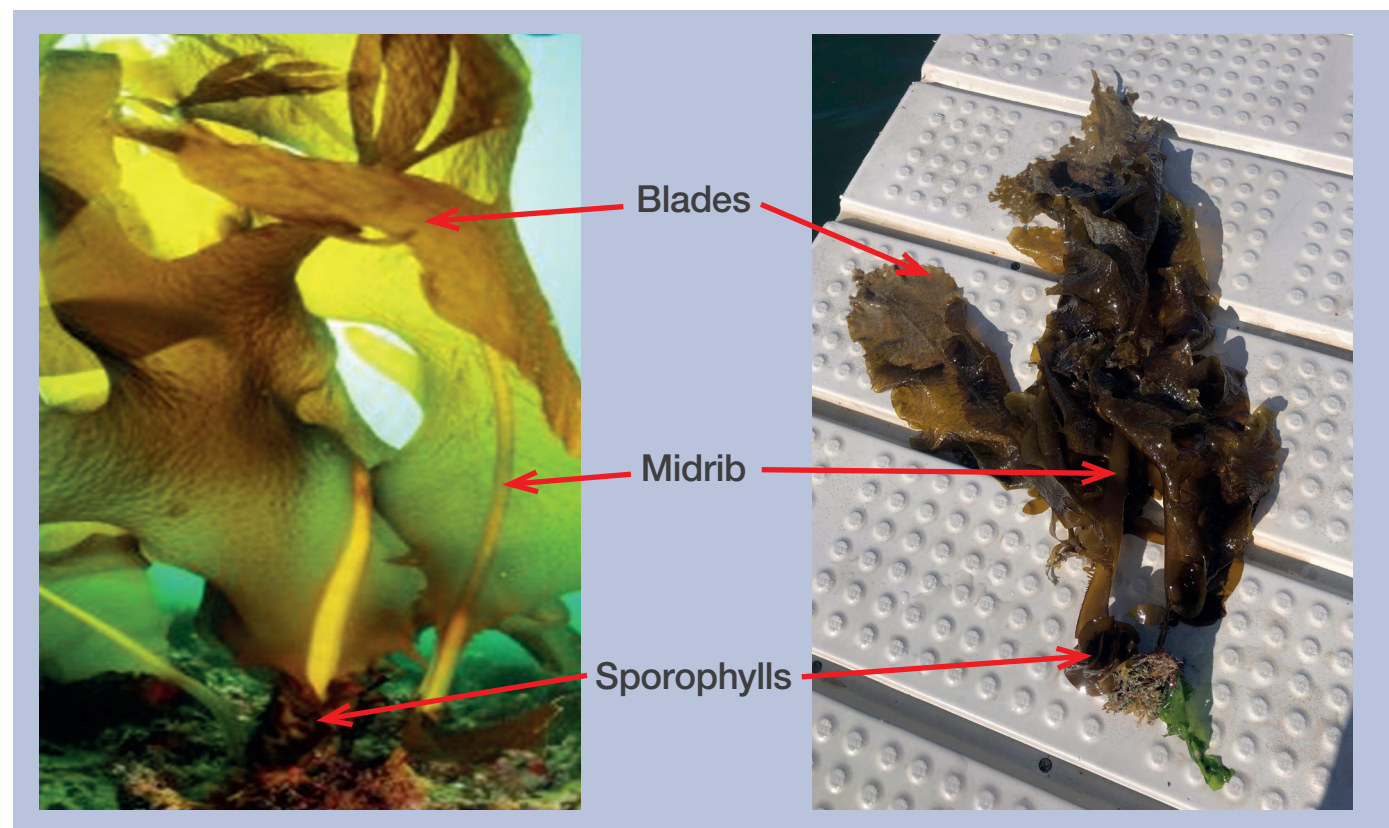
What is wakame?

Wakame is a species of non-native brown seaweed that forms dense forests and can exclude and shade out other native species. It has a range of impacts including nuisance fouling of vessels, marine structures, shellfish, and aquaculture structures.

Wakame is now considered established at the Robe and Cape Jaffa marinas but absent from other regions of the South Australian coastline.

What does wakame look like?

- green to golden-brown colour
- blades are smooth and thin and stop well short of base
- claw-like attachment
- obvious strap-like midrib along length of blade
- ruffle near base (sporophylls; mature plant)
- usually up to 1 metre long, but can be as long as 3 metres.



How to report

Report any suspected sightings of this species outside of Cape Jaffa Anchorage and Lake Butler Marina (Robe) to Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) immediately.

Fishwatch (24 hours):

1800 065 522

Email:

PIRSA.InvasiveSpecies@sa.gov.au

Or report via the form on the **South Australian Recreational Fishing Guide app**.