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Didemnum vexillum - New Zealand Coast Occurrences and Images

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First documented occurrence

Brian Coffey, December 2001. Reference: Coffey, B.T., 2001, Potentially invasive compound ascidian - Whangamata Harbour. Progress Report No. 1. Prepared for Waikato Regional Council, Hamilton.

First anecdotal occurrence

Merv Martin, Whangamata Harbour Master, Environment Waikato, October 2001

Taxonomic reference

Didemnum vexillum Kott, 2002

Kott, P., 2002, A complex didemnid ascidian from Whangamata, New Zealand: Journal of Marine Biology Association of the United Kingdom, v. 82, no. 4, p. 625-628.

- [Georges Bank](#)
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[description of *Didemnum vexillum*] [PDF format](#))

Kott, P., 2004, A new species of *Didemnum* (Asciacea, Tunicata) from the Atlantic coast of North America: *Zootaxa*, v. 732, p. 1-10. [description of *Didemnum vestum* and comparison with *D. vexillum* and *D. lahillei*] ([PDF format](#))

Report new occurrences to Page Valentine at pvalentine@usgs.gov

Account of the appearance of Didemnum vexillum in New Zealand in 2001 and 2002

Coutts, A.D.M., 2002, A biosecurity investigation of a barge in the Marlborough Sounds: Cawthron Institute Report 744, 68 p. ([PDF format](#))

[Recent research papers on *Didemnum*](#)

Recent Observations

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This report includes information on the infestation of the Steel Mariner barge by *D. vexillum*; images of the species; location maps; a report by P. Mather (Kott) on the identification of the didemnid; a survey of the didemnid on the barge and its spread to the seabed beneath it; and the potential risks posed by the spread of the species.

Evaluation of methods for managing Didemnum vexillum in New Zealand.

Coutts, A., 2006, An evaluation of incursion response tools for invasive species: a case study of *Didemnum vexillum* in the Marlborough Sounds (New Zealand): Cawthron Institute Report 1093, 84 p. Prepared for Biosecurity New Zealand. ([PDF format](#))

Web sites with imagery and text

New Zealand Diving and Salvage Limited; barge infestation and cleanup procedure; *D. vexillum* image on barge bottom. ([PDF format](#))

New Zealand Diving and Salvage Limited (NZDS); barge infestation and cleanup procedure; same as report on the Cawthron website; (*D. vexillum* images; all are not identical to those in Cawthron Report No. 755). ([PDF format](#))

Links to Related Topics

- [International Invasive](#)

Cawthron Report No. 755, barge infestation and cleanup procedure; ([PDF format](#)) ; same as report on NZDS website; (*D. vexillum* images; all are not identical to those in the NZDS report).

**Sea Squirt Conference,
PEI, Canada, Oct. 1-4, 2007
- Program with Abstracts (PDF)**

- **International Invasive Sea Squirt Conference, Woods Hole, MA, Apr. 21-22, 2005**
- **Imagery of the Family *Didemnidae***
- **Environmental Impact of Tunicates**
- **Tunicate News/Information**
- **Invasive Species Web sites**

Contributors & Other Sources

- **Contact Information**
- **Other didemnid imagery**
- **USGS News Releases**

Web sites with text only

Cawthron News, 2001, barge infestation. ([PDF format](#))

Cawthron News, 2002, barge infestation. ([PDF format](#))

Images

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Location Information

Text in gray (italic) indicates the topic has not been addressed to date.

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URL: woodshole.er.usgs.gov/project-pages/stellwagen/didemnum/htm/page14.htm

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