



Shores of South Devon
(marine life interest association)
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The Introduction and Spread of *Sargassum muticum* in the UK

(how local conditions can influence
recruitment, growth and epibiota composition)

by

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Thursday 16th May 2024 1930 h
via Zoom

No admission charge, but non-members must register at [Eventbrite](#)

The non-native algae *Sargassum muticum* (Japanese Wireweed) was first identified in the UK in the early 70's and since then it has spread across much of the UK's coast. Like many other non-native species, Sargassum is a generalist which can thrive under a wide range of conditions. This adaptability has enabled it to colonise rocky shores and artificial structures across many parts of the South coast contributing to its status as an invasive species. Despite its invasive status, the adaptability of this algae can help support a wide range of epifauna and flora.

The recruitment and morphology of Sargassum and the associated epibiota can be influenced by physical variables, such as tidal range, shore exposure and topography. Mike will discuss how these variables influence the growth of Sargassum and how this can also influence the species composition.