

Amathia verticillata (Della Chaije, 1828)

Phylum: Bryozoan

Common name: Spaghetti Bryozoan

Description:

It is an un-calcified bryozoan, with colonies made of irregularly branching or triple-quadruple branching stolons with zooids attached. Colonies can resemble “stringy, gelatinous noodles”, up to 1 m long”. The zooids are ovoid shape, about 380 x 580 µm in size.



Distribution:

The origin of this bryozoan is unknown, but it is consider invader in:

- Early 1900s Japan
- 1905 California
- Before 1921 Hawaii
- Before 1975 Australia
- 1988 South Korea
- 1992 New Zeland
- 2008 Azores Island
- [2009 MADEIRA](#)

Some impacts:

It's a common fouling organism and cause problems to boats and marinas.

It is considered a pest fouling species in aquaculture of pearl oysters in south coast of Korea.

It grows epiphytically on the leaves of eelgrass and eventually ends up killing them (San Diego Bay).

