

Cymodocea beds, Cymodocea meadows, Seagrass beds (*Cymodocea nodosa* Ucria (Ascherson), 1869

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***Cymodocea nodosa* Ucria (Ascherson), 1869**

Cymodocea nodosa forms large and dense patches with green leaves that can reach 100 cm long and 8 mm wide in well sorted fine sands or on superficial muddy sands in sheltered waters at depths of 1-30 meters. Frequently is mixed with other habitat forming phanerogams (*Zostera noltii* and *Zostera marina*) at muddy sands rich in organic nutrients. Shallow meadows of *Cymodocea* and *Zostera* are usually found in sheltered bays close to harbours, e.g. Cadiz Bay, or in areas subject to human impact.

C. nodosa has a tropical origin, nowadays restricted to the Mediterranean and scattered locations in the North Atlantic from southern Portugal and Spain to Senegal, including Canary Island and Madeira. Southern Portugal constitutes the current northern geographic limit of its distribution.

See OSPAR Agreement 2008-07 for references