

Can seaweed make money?



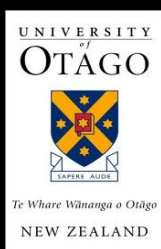
Undaria pinnatifida

©Y.Fontana, Station Biologique de Roscoff

Undaria pinnatifida is an invasive kelp species to New Zealand. Originally discovered in Wellington Harbour in 1980s, *Undaria* has spread throughout the majority of New Zealand coastlines changing the dynamics of near shore marine ecosystems. This foreign kelp is also known as Wakame in the highly lucrative seafood industry.

My research will:

- Estimate value of *Undaria* in Otago Harbour
- Assess if there is enough in Otago Harbour to sustain commercial harvest
- Analyse *Undaria's* response to harvesting and see how quickly it grows back



Department of
Marine Science



Eugene Leahy
Supervisor: Chris Hepburn