

Important
biosecurity
advice



Didymo, a freshwater algae found in New Zealand waterways, is not present in Tasmania.

Going fishing in New Zealand?

Don't return home with an unwanted pest !

Please read this important information about *Didymo*, from the Department of Primary Industries and Water, Tasmania.

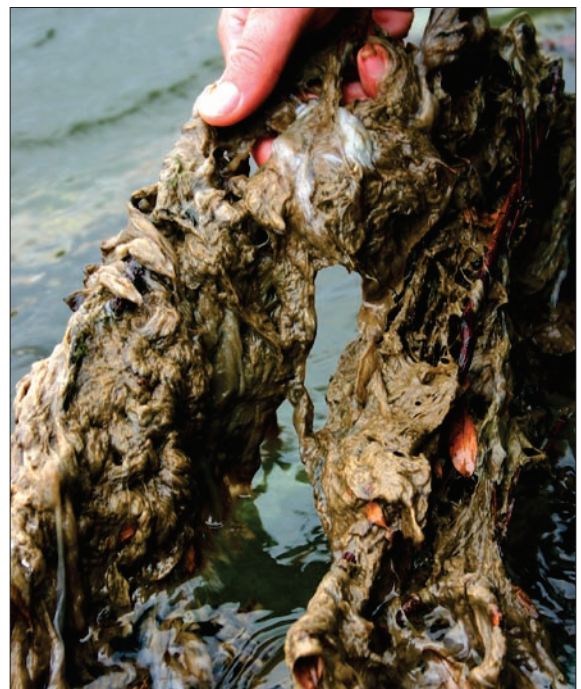
Didymo is freshwater algae not present in Tasmania, but recently discovered in New Zealand. It can spread quickly, forming massive blooms in waterways or lake edges and can have a significant impact on the insect life that many species of fish rely on for food. It also affects water quality and can pose a risk to waders and swimmers by making riverbeds slippery.

Didymo can be spread by uncleaned fishing gear

If you are fishing in New Zealand:

- Consider hiring or using fishing gear (including clothing) you don't have to bring back with you to Tasmania. If you do take your own gear, it will need to be thoroughly cleaned before returning to Tasmania.
- Before leaving a river remove all obvious clumps of algae from your gear and look for hidden clumps. If you find any later, do not wash them down drains. Remove them, treat with the solutions below, dry and put in a rubbish bin.
- Clean fishing gear every time you move between rivers in New Zealand.
- Clean your gear by soaking and scrubbing all items for at least a minute in either hot (60°C) water with a two percent solution of household bleach, or a five percent solution of salt, nappy cleaner, antiseptic hand cleaner or dishwashing detergent. (A two percent solution is 200 ml, a five percent solution is 500 ml (two large cups) with water added to make 10 litres.) It is recommended that you do not discharge cleaning waste into waterways.

If cleaning is not practical, dry your gear completely and wait an additional 48 hours before contact or use in another waterway.



The algae spreads quickly and negatively affects the water quality and ecology of waterways.



Tasmania