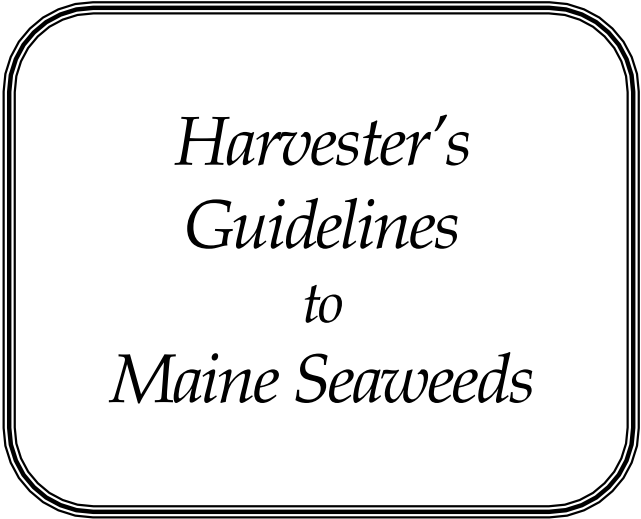


## Maine Seaweed Council Mission Statement

**“The Maine Seaweed Council strives to protect and promote the sustainable use of macroalgae harvested from and grown in the coastal waters of the State of Maine, develop and maintain a united voice to address regulatory, legislative and public concerns affecting the seaweed industry, and promote a spirit of cooperation among the membership.”**

As a part of our continued efforts to fulfill our mission, we work in conjunction with the Maine Department of Marine Resources and other government policy makers, recognized researchers from accredited educational institutions, and our sea vegetable and seaweed customers worldwide to develop these general guidelines for the sustainable harvest of this resource.

This handbook is a compilation of traditional harvest information and established research. We invite you to submit any information that would justify amendments to these guidelines.



*Harvester's  
Guidelines  
to  
Maine Seaweeds*

2014

*Maine Seaweed Council*

# Maine Seaweed Council

## 2014 Harvest Guidelines for Maine Seaweeds

Common Name Scientific Name	Traditional Harvest Season	Traditional Harvest Height	% of biomass removal based on assessment at the beginning of the harvest	Method of Harvest
<b>Dulse</b> <i>Palmaria palmata</i>	5/1-10/31	Should be harvested above the holdfast	75% per harvest as regrowth permits	Although it is recognized that improper hand harvesting can lead to over harvesting, mechanical harvesting has the potential for removal of far more biomass in less time. For this reason, selectivity should be employed regardless of method of harvest and any form of harvesting should undergo careful scrutiny to verify that it is an environmentally concerned, ecological and sustainable method.
<b>Bladderwrack, Fucus</b> <i>F. vesiculosus</i> , <i>F. evanescens</i> [syn <i>Fucus edentatus</i> ]	Year round	Should be harvested above the holdfast	30% per year	
<b>Irish Moss (&amp; false)</b> <i>Chondrus crispus</i> , <i>Mastocarpus stellatus</i>	6/1-11/30	Should be harvested above the holdfast	30% per year	
<b>Kelp, Fingered</b> <i>Laminaria digitata</i> [syn <i>Saccharina digitata</i> ]	Year round	Should be harvested above the holdfast	30% per year	
<b>Kelp, Oarweed</b> <i>Saccharina longicuris</i> [syn <i>Laminaria longicuris</i> ]	3/1-8/31	Should be harvested above the holdfast	30% per year	
<b>Kelp, Sugarwrack</b> <i>Saccharina latissima</i> [syn <i>Laminaria saccharina</i> ]	3/1-8/31	Should be harvested above the holdfast	30% per year	
<b>Kelp, Winged</b> <i>Alaria esculenta</i>	3/1-8/31	Should be harvested above the holdfast and sporophylls (wings)	30% per year	
<b>Nori</b> <i>Porphyra spp.</i>	4/1-10/31	Should be harvested above the holdfast	75% per harvest as regrowth permits	
<b>Rockweed, Knottedwrack</b> <i>Ascophyllum nodosum</i>	Year round	<b>*SEE BELOW</b>	17% per year or 50% per 3 years	
<b>Sea Lettuce</b> <i>Ulva lactuca</i>	4/1-10/30	Should be harvested above the holdfast	75% per harvest as regrowth permits	
<b>Wormweed</b> <i>Ascophyllum nodosum</i> <i>f. scorpioides</i>	Year round	May be harvested in its entirety	75% per harvest as regrowth permits	
<b>* As defined by the Maine Dept. of Marine Resources Regulation 29.05:</b>	(1) "The lowest lateral branches shall remain undisturbed and attached to the main stalk of the rockweed that is attached to the substrate; and (2) a minimum of 16 inches of the rockweed shall remain above the holdfast"			

**UPDATE:** In 2013, the Department of Marine Resources began the challenging task of developing a framework of recommendations for the long-term management of the rockweed fishery (*Ascophyllum nodosum*). The Planning Development Team included a number of members of the Maine Seaweed Council. As new regulations are developed and approved, these Harvest Guidelines will incorporate the changes.