

Ecklonia radiata

COMMON NAMES

Common kelp, paddle (common) weed

BIOSTATUS

Native

CATEGORY

Non-vascular

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

This algae grows to about 1 metre long. It has a many fronds that arise from a central supporting stem.

THREATS

Common kelp is not a threatened species but it is the preferred food of the sea urchin, kina (*Evechinus chloroticus*) which, on occasion, mass together and eat an entire forest of the species.

GENUS

Ecklonia

FAMILY

Lessoniaceae

AUTHORITY

Ecklonia radiata (C.Agardh) J.Agardh

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

ecklonia: Named in honour of Christian Friedrich Ecklon(1795-1868).Danish pharmacist, botanist and plant collector and one of the early botanical explorers of the Cape of Good Hope.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Easton, L. 1995. Report to Auckland Botanical society on the results of research into *Ecklonia radiata* dieback. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 50: 39-40.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ecklonia-radiata/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026

