

Macrocystis pyrifera

COMMON NAME

Bladder kelp, giant kelp

FAMILY

Laminariaceae

AUTHORITY

Macrocystis pyrifera (L.) C.Agardh

FLORA CATEGORY

Non-vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

NVS CODE

MACPYR

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A species that grows to over 20 metres long and forms large forests in deep sheltered waters and is found in southern New Zealand. It is easily recognised by the gas-filled floats at the base of each frond which help to hold the kelp upright and so maximise the amount of sunlight the blades receive.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/macrocystis-pyrifera/>



Macrocystis pyrifera, Aramoana, Otago.
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Macrocystis pyrifera, Shag Point, North Otago.
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