

The natural occurrence of seaweed is being managed by environmental and tourism entities on Mexico's Caribbean beaches.

WHAT IS SARGASSUM?

Sargassum is seaweed that forms in the warm waters of the Atlantic Ocean, where four major ocean currents converge to create the Sargasso Sea. The sargassum (seaweed) is a natural occurrence that can often wash ashore. These plants are a source of nourishment for an abundance of sea creatures.

FACT

Mexico's Federal and State Government are actively collecting sargassum seaweed in the beaches of Quintana Roo

- More than 4,753,071 cubic feet have been collected between June 19 and August 21 from 41 beaches in seven municipalities in the state of Quintana Roo.
- The majority has been disposed in a sustainable manner.
- Through intensive manpower and investments in equipment to remove the sargassum, we are working tirelessly to ensure that guests can enjoy the beaches of Mexico's Caribbean.

FACT

We are developing preventative techniques to keep sargassum at bay

- A barrier measuring 27 kilometers (16.7 miles) will be installed off the coast of Quintana Roo in order to keep sargassum from reaching Quintana Roo's beaches.
- The barriers will not intercept or disrupt marine life.
- The floating barriers are a modification of those used to contain oil spills, and are anchored to the seabed.

FACT

Sargassum can be found beyond Mexico's beaches

- Sargassum comes from the Sargasso Sea in the North Atlantic Ocean.
- In the case of the Gulf and North Atlantic currents, the sargassum has reached the coasts of Florida in the U.S., as well as Caribbean countries including Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Cuba further south in countries like Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana in South America.

Sargassum has been found on some beaches in Quintana Roo.

As the sea currents change every day, the arrival of the Sargasso is difficult to establish. To see the current conditions of Mexico's beaches, visit www.webcamsdemexico.com