

The effect of ultraviolet radiation on the growth rates of New England macroalgal species in Castine Harbor.

The effects of the presence or absence of natural ultraviolet radiation (UV) on the growth rates of macroalgal species, as measured by wet weights, were investigated in three New England marine macroalgal species in Castine Harbor, Maine. These species included the chlorophyte, *Ulva lactuca*, the phaeophyte, *Laminaria saccharina* and the rhodophyte, *Chondrus crispus*. Eight samples of each species were observed and measured under UV opaque and UV transparent conditions for a period of five weeks. No significant affects could be detected in the growth rates, i.e., percent changes in wet weights, between any of the species in either treatment. *Chondrus crispus* was not used in data analysis due to extreme epiphyte growth on the samples which highly skewed measurements. Although no significant affects were found within the wet weights of the samples, the health conditions of the samples under each of the two conditions varied substantially.