

How do we grow the lung of the sea?

Seagrass Reproduction

Seagrass Reproduction Methods

- ✿ Sexual
- ✿ Asexual

What are the advantages and disadvantages of both methods?

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Sexual Reproduction

Pollination

- Like flowering plants on land, seagrass can use pollen to reproduce
- The grass releases this pollen from the flowers
- The pollen is carried both by the ocean currents and by its tiny inhabitants (crustaceans and other animals)
- **Advantages:** Allows for genetically different offspring, can build immunity to disease, adaptations can occur more quickly
- **Disadvantages:** Takes more energy to produce flowers, takes more time to find a viable mate, an isolated plant may not be able to find a mate



Asexual Reproduction Vegetative



- Seagrass can use vegetative reproduction to produce, just like pineapple, bananas, and onions!
- The rhizome (the creeping root structure) extends out of the parent plant and produces new leaves
- This makes an exact replica of the parent plant- natural cloning!
- **Advantages:** population size can increase quickly, the population can exploit an entire suitable habitat
- **Disadvantages:** there is no genetic variation, adaptation happens very slowly, disease can take out an entire population

SCARS HURT

Boating.
Fishing.
You.



Avoid

Whenever possible, avoid seagrass beds and utilize navigation channels or deeper water while under power.



Trim

If over seagrass beds in shallow water, be sure to trim your motor up and idle to a safe depth before proceeding on plane.



Push

If aground, do not proceed under power. Turn off and trim up your motor then push the boat to a safe depth.



Be Seagrass Safe

Visit BeSeagrassSafe.com to learn how to keep seagrass beds healthy and boating enjoyable for everyone.

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