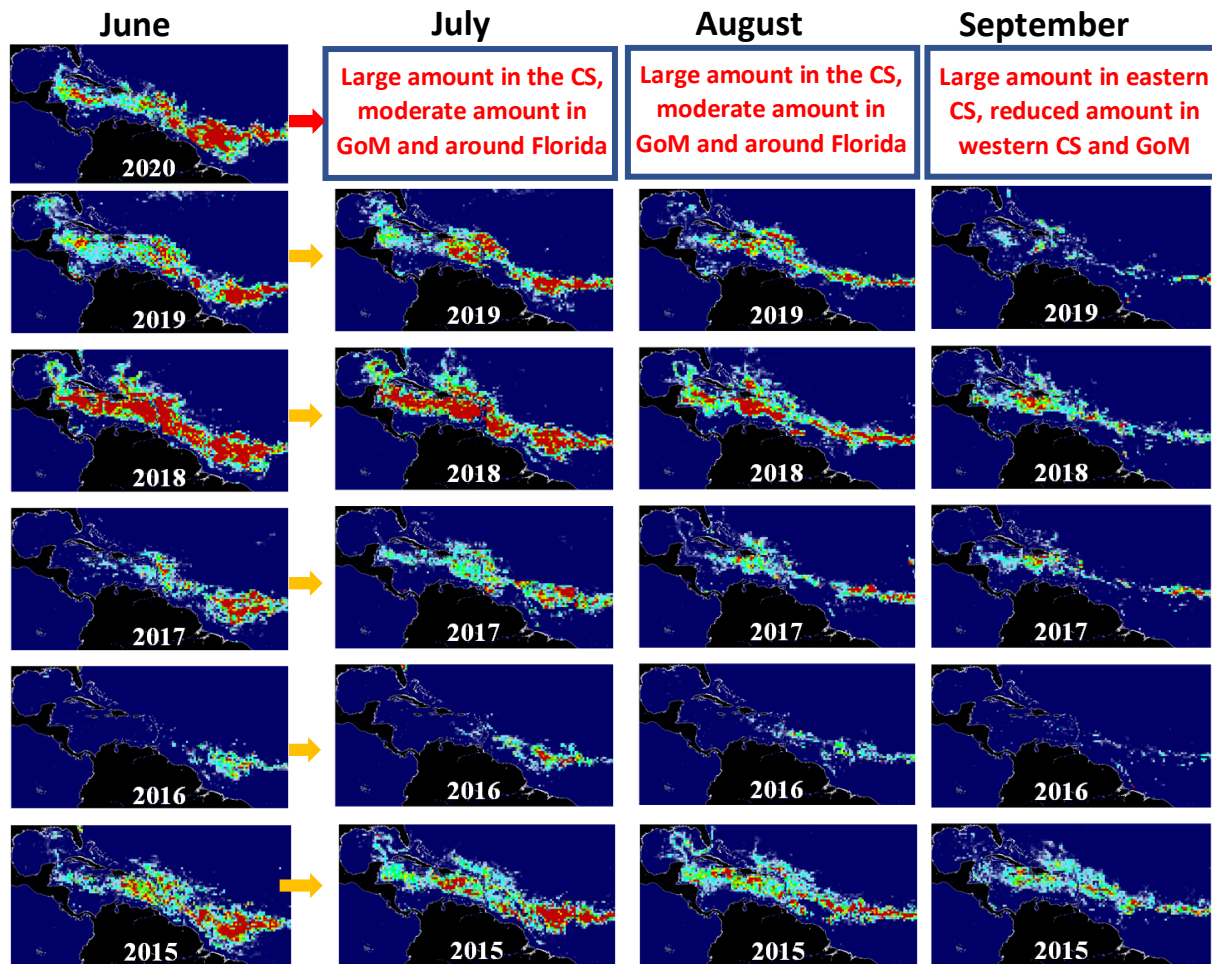


The maps below show *Sargassum* abundance, with warm colors representing high abundance.

In June 2020, the *Sargassum* amount continued to increase across the central Atlantic. Large amount of *Sargassum* was observed in the Central West Atlantic (CWA, i.e., the region east of the Lesser Antilles in the maps below), the Central East Atlantic (CEA), and most of the Caribbean Sea (CS). Beaching events in some Caribbean islands continued. *Sargassum* transport to the Gulf of Mexico (GoM) also increased, with moderate amounts found in the Florida Straits and along the east coast of Florida. Miami Beach started to see some inundation. In all regions combined, the total *Sargassum* amount increased from 8.7 M tons in May to 12.7 million metric tons in June, lower than June 2018 (20.4 M tons) but higher than June 2015 (9.9M tons) and June 2019 (9.5M tons).

Looking ahead, the eastern Caribbean will continue experiencing large amounts of *Sargassum* in July to September 2020 with many beaching events. The western Caribbean will also experience moderate amounts. The situation is expected to be similar to summer 2015 and 2019, but with larger *Sargassum* amounts. In July – August, more *Sargassum* will reach the eastern GOM, enter the Florida Straits, and transport to the east coast of Florida. The bloom may start to decrease from late August to September. More updates will be provided by the end of July 2020, and more information and imagery can be found from the *Sargassum* Watch System (SaWS, <https://optics.marine.usf.edu/projects/saws.html>)



Disclaimer: The information bulletin is meant to provide a general outlook of current bloom condition and future bloom probability for the Caribbean Sea. By no means should it be used for commercial purpose, or used for predicting bloom conditions for a specific location or beach. The authors of this bulletin, as well as USF and NASA, take no responsibility for improper use or interpretation of the bulletin.