

Outlook of 2025 *Sargassum* blooms

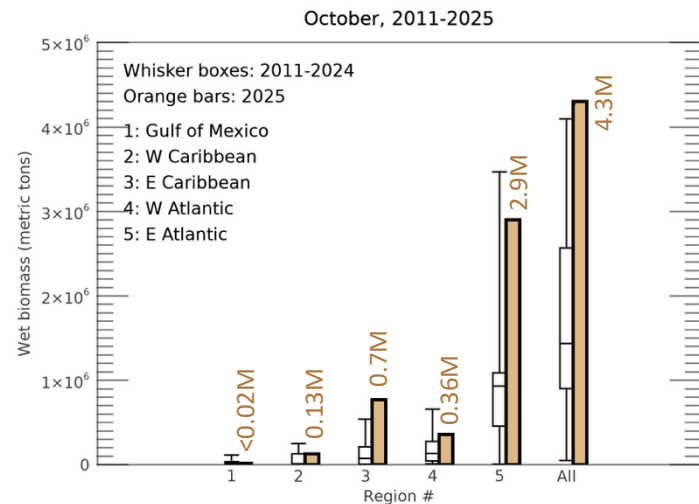
A perspective for the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of America*

October 31, 2025, by the University of South Florida Optical Oceanography Lab

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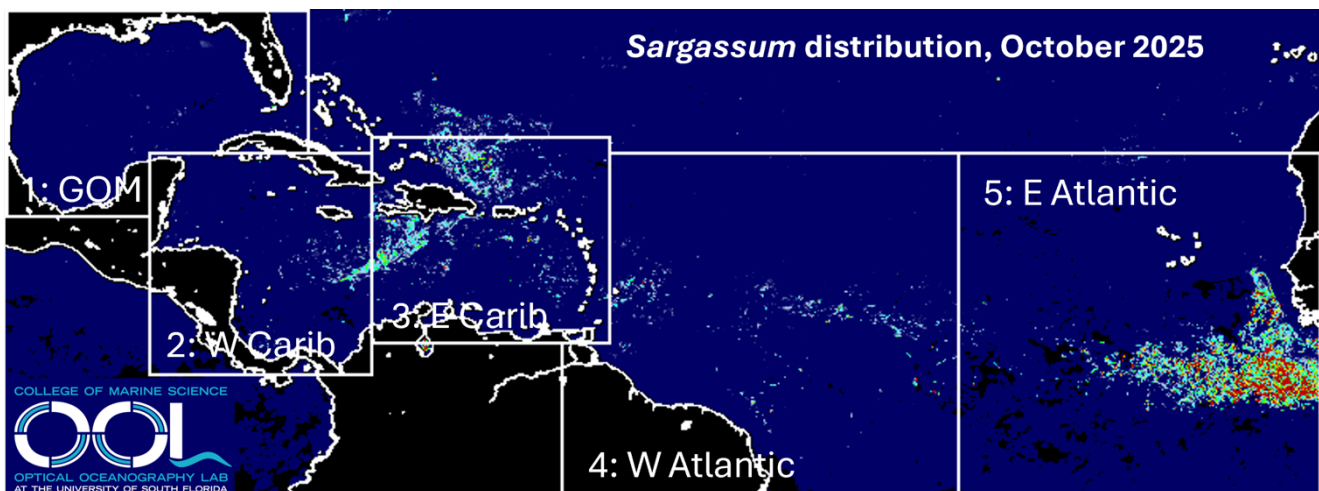
The map below shows the average *Sargassum* abundance for the month of October 2025, with warm colors representing higher abundance. The top color (red) indicates that 0.4% of the ocean surface is covered by *Sargassum*, meaning that *Sargassum* clumps and mats are scattered here and there in the location. The *Sargassum* abundance for each region is compared with historical values in the same month of 2011 – 2024 in the whisker box plot below, where horizontal bars in each vertical box indicate minimum, 25%, 50%, 75%, and maximal historical values, respectively.

As predicted last month, the total amount of *Sargassum* in each of the five regions continued to decline in October. Similar to what happened in September, the decline in October was substantial in all but the East Atlantic region, with total *Sargassum* amount more than halved again. Most *Sargassum* is now in the East Atlantic, followed by the eastern Caribbean region. In the Gulf of America, *Sargassum* amount is now negligible (<0.02 metric tons). Despite such sharp declines, total *Sargassum* amount in the eastern Caribbean and West Atlantic still shows the highest in history for the month of October, but most of this biomass is around Dominica Republic and Haiti. Overall, the inundation pressure should have decreased substantially for all regions in October.



Looking ahead: Total *Sargassum* amount in all regions is likely to continue to decline, possibly reaching the annual minimum in November. Correspondingly, most regions should be free of massive inundations, as the *Sargassum* “season” is over. One possible exception is the East Atlantic, where the total *Sargassum* amount will likely remain relatively high even after further declines in November.

All previous monthly bulletins as well as daily imagery can be found under the *Sargassum* Watch System ([SaWS](#)). Meanwhile, we will keep a close eye on the temporal changes of *Sargassum* amount in all regions.



Disclaimer: The bulletin is meant to provide general outlooks of current and future bloom conditions for the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico. 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 the Federal funding agencies, take no responsibility for improper use or interpretation of the bulletin. Credit for the images and information should be given to the Optical Oceanography Lab at the USF College of Marine Science.