UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA
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Outlook of 2025 *Sargassum* blooms

A perspective for the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of America*

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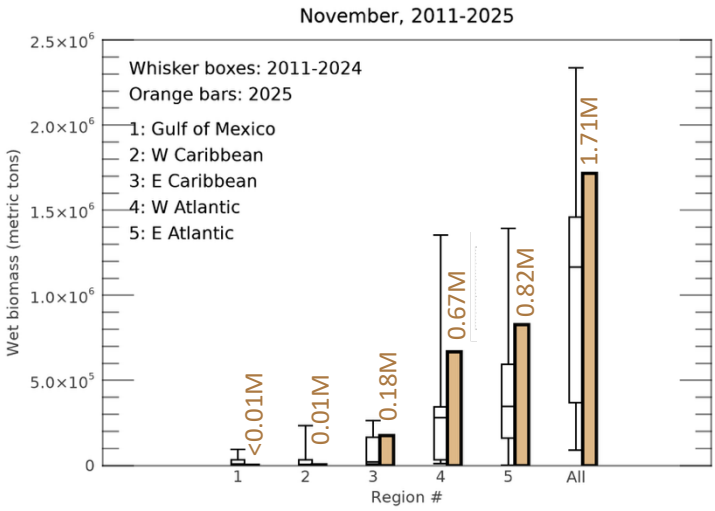
The map below shows the average *Sargassum* abundance for the month of November 2025, with warm colors representing higher abundance. The top color (red) indicates that 0.4% of the ocean surface is covered by *Sargassum*, meaning that *Sargassum* clumps and mats are scattered here and there in the location. 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 but the West Atlantic region continued to decline substantially in November, with *Sargassum* biomass more than halved. Total *Sargassum* amount for all regions combined decreased from 4.3M metric tons in October to 1.7M metric tons in November. Negligible amount of *Sargassum* was found in the Gulf of America and western Caribbean, and *Sargassum* "season" for all Caribbean and Gulf regions is over. Despite such sharp declines, total *Sargassum* amount in the eastern Caribbean and tropical Atlantic still exceeded 75% of their historical values in November.

Looking ahead: *Sargassum* amount in the Gulf of America and Caribbean Sea is likely to remain negligible or very low, but in the tropical Atlantic may increase slightly according to their temporal patterns in similar periods of the past 14 years. If the increase is substantial, it is a sign of another major *Sargassum* year in 2026, but it's too early to say so now.

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.