

Protocol for Packaging and Shipping Sorus Tissue

After you've found a collection location and window for sorus, prepare your collection/shipping tool kit.

1. Gather supplies:

- ☐ Cooler or other insulated container (styrofoam box, cooler bag, lunch box, etc.)
 - One cooler for each collection location
- ☐ Large ice packs that will stay frozen for the entire shipping process
- ☐ Spacing material (cardboard, foam, bubble wrap, etc.)
- ☐ Paper towels
- ☐ Clean seawater
- ☐ Sharpie
- ☐ Labeling tape
- ☐ Cardboard box
 - Some shipping services will require you to pack your insulated container inside a cardboard box for shipping.

2. Inspect the collected blades. If they are heavily fouled with epiphytes that cannot be rinsed off, do not use them.

- Snails or other animals can be rinsed off. Do not use blades with bryozoans or hydroids, which cannot be rinsed off.

3. Trim the blade to remove the holdfast and parts of the meristem with no sorus tissue. If a blade is very wide, consider trimming the edges for easier packing. Bleach the tank for a minimum of 2 hours using tap water.

4. Prepare your cooler. Pack sorus from separate collection locations in different coolers.

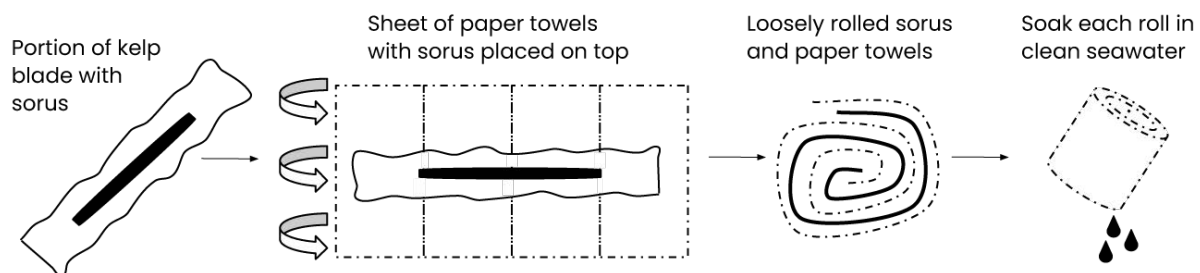
- Put a piece of labeling tape on the cooler with the collection location, date, and collector name.
- Place the ice packs at the bottom of your cooler. It is important for the ice packs to be on the bottom so the condensation does not drip onto the kelp and damage the blades.
- Cover the ice packs with spacing material to prevent the kelp from coming in direct contact with the ice packs.

5. On a clean, dry surface, roll out your paper towels and place the sorus on the sheet.

6. Roll up your sorus in the paper towels.

7. Soak each roll in clean seawater.

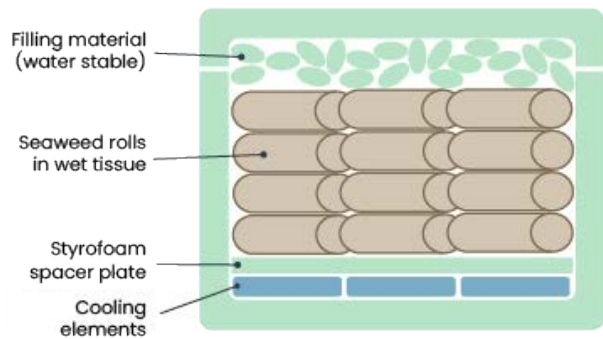
- Do not pack the rolls too tightly, they need to have space between them so they can breathe.



8. Fill any empty space in the cooler with extra packing material, just enough to prevent the rolls from unraveling during transport.
9. Close and seal the cooler.
10. Mark the box with “this side up” and an arrow indicating the top of the box.
11. Send the shipment with a reliable service with the quickest shipping option.
 - Make sure that the recipient of the package will be present to receive the shipment and is able to process the sorus upon receipt.
 - Typically, we avoid sending packages on Thursdays and Fridays because if a package is delivered late or sits outside too long, the sorus may spoil
12. Check the tracking of the package frequently and forward the tracking information to the recipient.



Sori-box filled with *Saccharina latissima* rolled in tissue and soaked in sea water, ready for shipment.



Schematic of Sori shipment box build-up