



The surgeonfish
Acanthurus lineatus
grows hedgerows
of Macroalgae

These hedgerows, principally of *Turbinaria*, separate neighbouring territories of this aggressive colonial herbivore and probably arise because neighbours do not graze along their common territory borders. Since many of these hedgerows grow on exposed substratum they show how socially mediated variation in grazing pressure can affect the small-scale distribution of algae, and do so independently of the distribution of physical refuges that limit the activity of grazers. 1–2 m depth, Avaroa Channel, Moorea, French Polynesia.

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Reef sites