

Cruise Summary
Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
Coral Disease Monitoring
Prepared by Emma Hickerson and G.P. Schmahl

G.P. Schmahl and Emma Hickerson revisited disease tags on May 10 and 11, 2005. These monitoring sites were first tagged on April 13 and 14, 2005. This is the first visitation since then. The following is a summary of our observations. Unless indicated, all of the images shown in this document were taken during the May 10 and 11, 2005 cruise. You can also refer to the report dated April 13-14, 2005 for previous images for comparison. Please note, scale in images are in 1” increments.

Tag #1: *M. annularis* – dead tissue appeared to have been colonized by algae (image 1). At least one lesion area appears to have progressed (image 2) about 1cm. Numerous disease lesions continue to appear active, but slow.



Image 1. Tag #1. EFGB. (GPS)



Image 2. Tag #1. EFGB (ELH)

Tag #2: *M. franksi* - there appears to be very little progress in the spread of the disease on this colony, overall (image 3), including the location of the margin nail (image 4). One active lesion was observed.



Image 3. Tag #2. EFGB (GPS)



Image 4. Tag #2. EFGB. (ELH)

Tag #6: *M. faveolata* – The disease continues to be active, but slow, with about 1cm progress overall on movement of the disease margin, with varying degrees of activeness, as seen in images of margin nails (image 5 and 6). The disease is quite widespread over the large colony (image 7 and 8). What is not reflected at the margin nail sites is the increased activity and progress of the disease in between the 2 larger lobes shown in the two images – showing the progression over time (image 7 – April 2005, image 8 – May 2005)

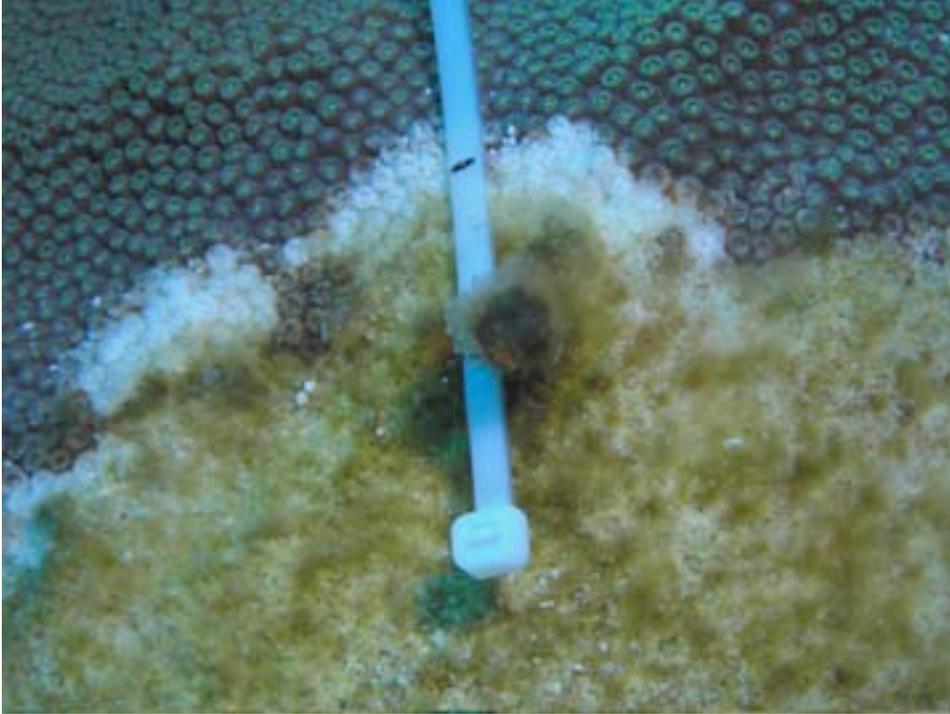


Image 5. Tag #6, margin nail #1. EFGB. (ELH)



Image 6. Tag #6, margin nail #2. EFGB. (ELH)



Image 7. Tag #6. April 2005. (GPS)



Image 8. Tag #6. EFGB. (GPS)

Tag #12: *M. faveolata* – on one margin nail, the disease has progressed about 1 cm, and continues to be active (image 9). On the second nail, exposed skeleton edges up to a very thin line of perhaps active disease (image 10). The colony continues to exhibit active lesions overall (image 11).

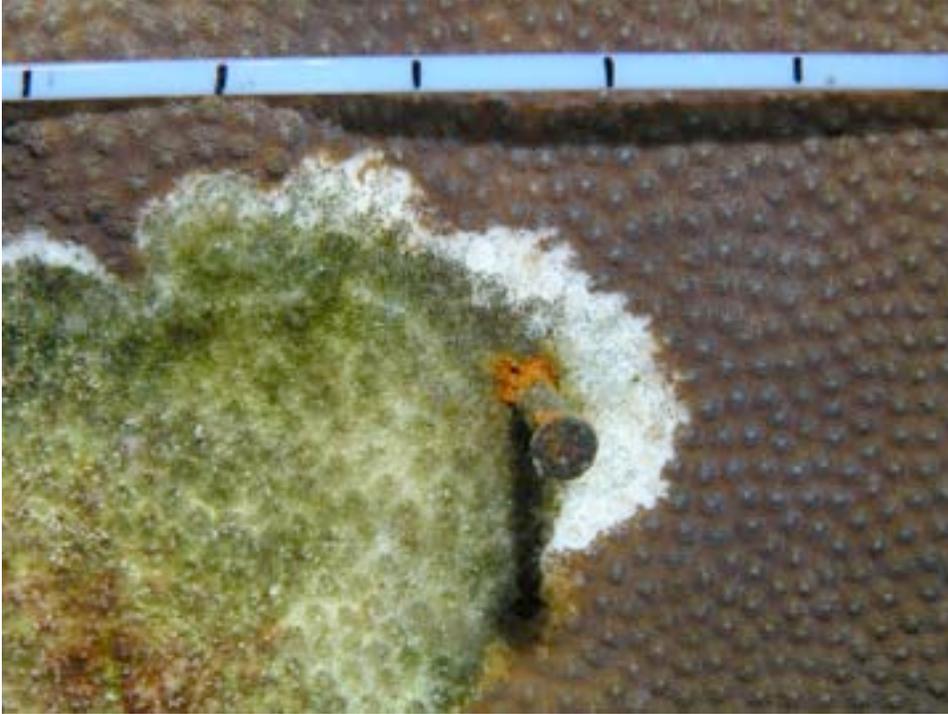


Image 9. Tag #12, margin nail #1. WFGB. (ELH)

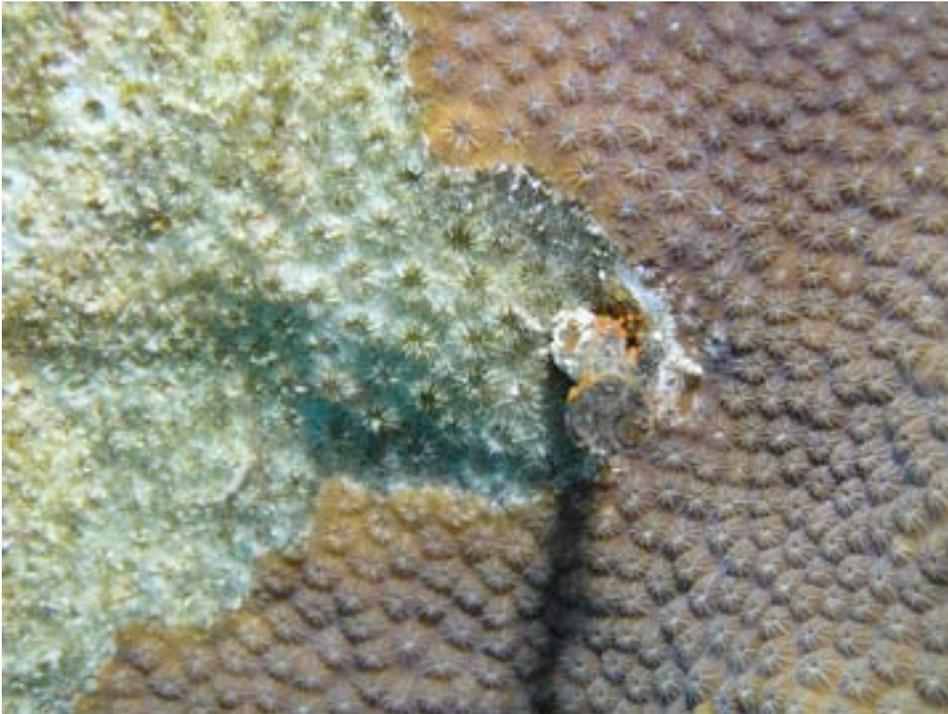


Image 10. Tag #12, margin nail #2. WFGB. (ELH)



Image 11. Tag #12. WFGB. (GPS)

Tag #20: *Montastraea sp.* – The disease appears to have progressed slowly, about 1cm in some active lesions (image 12). Image 13 (April 2005) and 14 (May 2005) show active disease on a knob on the tagged colony – progression over time. The margin nail has been overgrown with algae, and the lesion appears to be inactive (image 15) – n.b. the margin nail was placed on a lesion on a *M. faveolata* colony directly in front of the *Montastraea sp.* colony tagged #20.

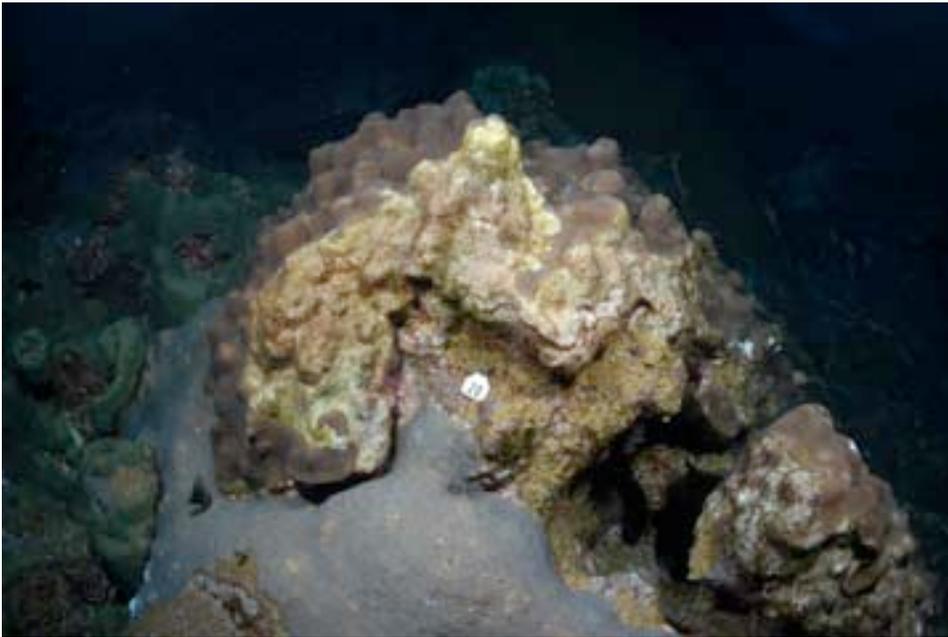


Image 12. Tag #20. WFGB. (GPS)



Image 13. Tag #20. WFGB. April 2005. (ELH)

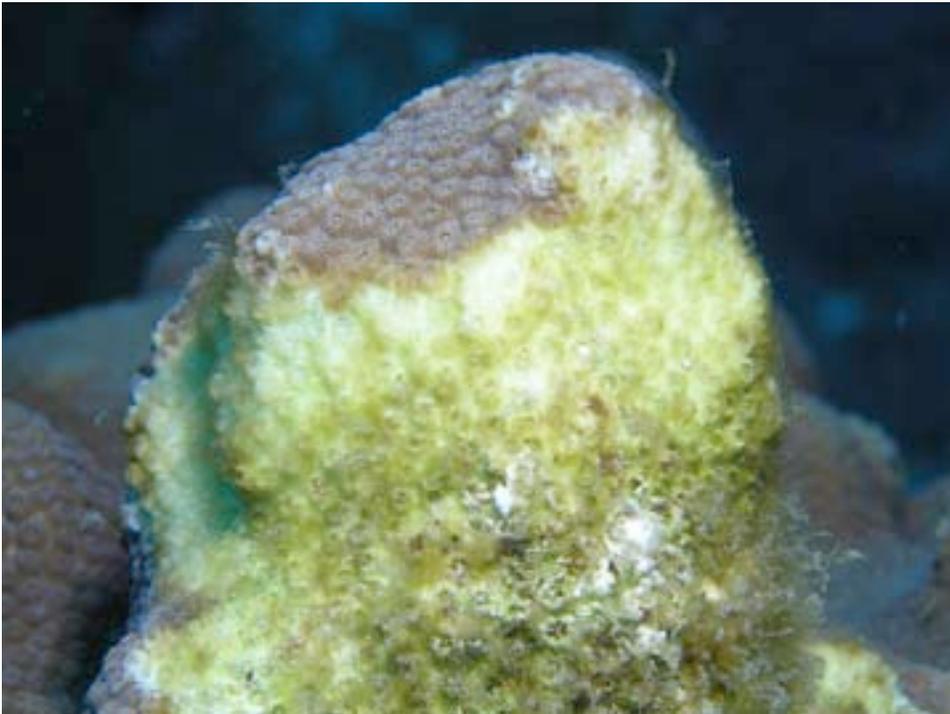


Image 14. Tag #20. WFGB. May 2005. (ELH)



Image 15. Tag #20. WFGB. (ELH).