



Figure 1. *Codium bursa* individuals growing at a crevice in the low eulitoral at Playa del Sobrado, islote de Lobos, Fuerteventura Island.

FIRST OBSERVATION OF THE GREEN ALGAE *CODIUM BURSA* AT THE NATURAL PARK ISLOTE DE LOBOS, FUERTEVENTURA (CANARY ISLANDS). Beatriz Alfonso. Departamento de Biología Animal, Edafología y Geología. Facultad de Ciencias, Sección Biología, Universidad de La Laguna (Tenerife, islas Canarias) y Departamento de Biología Evolutiva, Ecología i Ciències Ambientals, Secció d' Ecologia, Facultat de Biologia. Universitat de Barcelona. Barcelona, España.

In March 2022 the species *Codium bursa* (Linnaeus) C. Agardh was observed at the low eulitoral of Playa del Sobrado in the northwest coast of islote de Lobos (Fuerteventura), during the sampling of the intertidal benthic community of the REMA-CAN project from ULL and Gobierno de Canarias. The total abundance of the species along the transect (10 x 2 m) was of 20 individuals, mainly growing epilithic in crevices or vertical walls near the water. This coenocytic green algae is widely distributed along the Mediterranean coasts and extends in the eastern Atlantic: England, France, Portugal, Spain and the Canary (Chacana 2002; Guiry and Guiry 2023). *Codium bursa* has been widely reported from the eastern Canary



Islands (Vickers 1896; Afonso-Carrillo and Gil-Rodríguez 1980; Viera-Rodríguez 1985; González-Ruíz *et al.* 1995; Guadalupe *et al.* 1995; Reyes *et al.* 2000), hence, its occurrence at the islote de Lobos was not unexpected. *Codium bursa* is morphologically similar to *C. elisabethae* O.C. Schmidt, a species only reported from Azores, Madeira and Montaña Clara in north of Lanzarote, which exhibit globose thalli also (Schmidt 1929; Chacana *et al.* 2003; Afonso-Carrillo 2014). This two *Codium* species can only be distinguish with confidence based on the morphology of the utricules (Chacana *et al.* 2003), although the habitat can be useful too in the Macaronesian region: *C. bursa* can grow in the eulitoral and remain exposed to air, while *C. elisabethiae* has only been observed in the shallow sublitoral (Afonso-Carrillo and Gil Rodríguez 1980; González-Ruíz *et al.* 1995; Chacana *et al.* 2003).

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