

Prymnesium parvum

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Last year, the **River Oder** in Poland has witnessed many dead fish washed up caused due to **Prymnesium parvum**.



[ref-flickr]

About Prymnesium parvum:

- It is a microscopic, single-celled algae having four distinct forms.
 - Three forms are scaled, bi-flagellated and have a flexible needle-like filament called a haptonema.
 - The fourth form is a scaled, non-mobile and contains silica.
- It is an invasive and toxic that can be adaptable in brackish salinities.
- It is **mixotrophic** that supports its growth with **autotrophy** (photosynthesis) or **heterotrophy** when **nutrients** are scarce.