Most abundant coral species

Branching corals

- > tolerant against sedimentation
- > grow fast
- > regrow from broken fragments

Branching corals

Acropora sp.

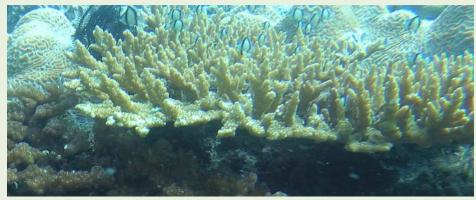






Plate corals

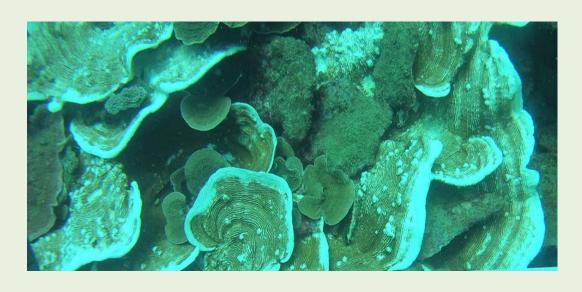
- > tolerant against low light levels. Bigger surface enables higher light capture
- remove sediments through ciliary movement and mucus production (high energy costs)

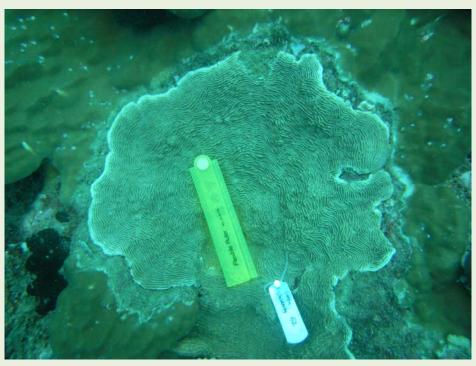
Plate corals Montipora sp.





Plate corals Pachyseris sp.





Massive corals

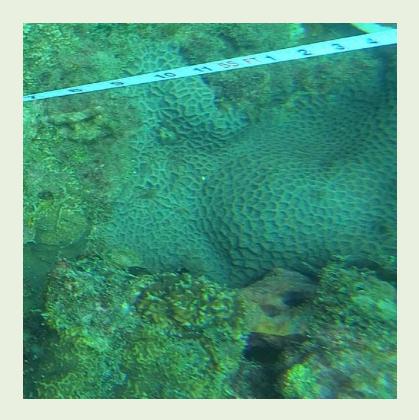
- > robust against strong waves and currents
- > slow growth
- remove sediments with ciliary action and mucus production

Massive corals Favia sp.





Massive corals Favites sp.





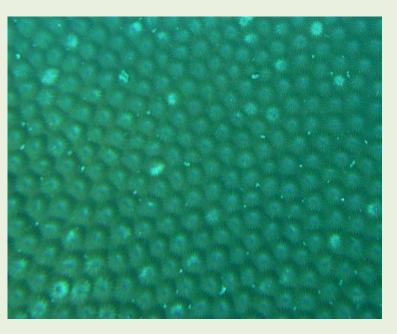
Massive corals Porites sp.





Massive corals Diploastrea sp.





Encrusting corals

Encrusting corals Platygyra sp.





Solitary living corals

Solitary living corals Ctenactis sp.



Soft corals

- > do not produce a calcified skeleton
- > tolerant against sedimentation

Soft corals

