Techniques needed and plant shape





PLANT





Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Codiaceae

*Descriptive name

pale forked velvet-weed

Features

plants yellow-green to 1m tall, branches cylindrical, 4-7mm in diameter forked many times, rubbery with a velvety surface

Special requirements

shave off or tease out a few of the microscopic outer structures (utricles) and view them under the microscope. Utricles with thickened caps and helmet shaped (galeate) tops, 750-1300μm long and 200-500μm in diameter

Occurrences Usual Habitat

common from central W Australia to Tasmania and northern NSW on rock from low water level to 37m deep, on rough water coasts

Similar Species

similar to several of the upright, tubular species, but the regular forked branching and helmeted (galeate) utricles are unique to Codium galeatum.

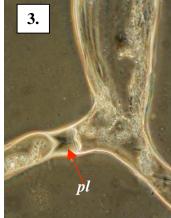
Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 231, 233, 235 **Details of Anatomy**

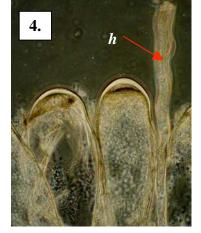




Preserved (bleached) specimens of Codium galeatum (A19382) viewed microscopically at various magnifications showing

- cluster of detached utricles using dark 1. field imaging to emphasize the thickened
- 2. base of a utricle showing its extension into filaments one of which contains a conspicuous plug (pl) close to the utricle
- 3, 4. utricle tops with thickened end walls and helmet shaped (galeate)caps, more pronounced in #3. Image #4 also has a portion of a long hair (h).





^{*} Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, September 2003





Two magnifications of *Codium galeatum* J. Agardh, (A18664) from Pt Elliott, S. Australia

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