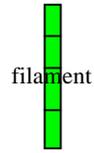


# *Bryopsis australis* Sonder

50.670



MICRO  
PLANT



## Techniques needed and shape

## Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Bryopsidaceae

## \*Descriptive name

delicate shining green tufts

## Features

1. plants are bright green, *shining* when dry, 10 – 40mm tall,
2. *several* main upright stalks(axes) arise from a mass of branched rhizoids
3. ultimate branches (ramuli) are in a *single* row or in **2 rows** usually near the tips with the stalks denuded below



## Variations



*additional* ultimate branches (ramuli) may occur *between* the more uniform rows

## Special requirements:



1. view the rarely-divided (*coenocytic*) filaments microscopically
2. measure the stalks (axes): they should be about **0.5mm** across

## Occurrences

## Usual Habitat

from SW W. Australia and Kangaroo I., S. Australia  
on intertidal rock

## Similar Species

*Bryopsis gemellipara* has similar branching patterns, but is larger with thicker axes

## Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 283-285

## Details of Anatomy



- 1-3. Preserved (bleached) specimens of *Bryopsis australis* (A50705) from Rottnest I., W Australia
  1. dense apical tufts with radial branching and, below, one-sided branching (arrowed).
  2. tip of a side branch with mainly 2-sided branching of ramuli but also occasional additional ramuli interposed between the 2 rows. The ramuli all point upwards.
  3. detail of the 2 opposite rows of ramuli on an axis, characteristic of the species.



*Bryopsis australis* Sonder  
(A50705) from Rottnest I.,  
W. Australia

4. whole plants
5. a preserved, (bleached) specimen, magnified to show the basal tangled mass of rhizoids from which many upright main stalks (axes) arise bearing 1- and 2-sided ultimate branches (ramuli)