Bryopsis gemellipara
J Agardh

**Techniques needed and shape**

**Classification**
Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Bryopsidaceae

*Descriptive name*
tufted tips; § feather bryopsis

**Features**
1. plants bright green, shining when dry, 50–200mm tall
2. several upright stalks (axes) arise from basal, branching rhizoids.
3. short side branches are numerous, arranged in 2 rows ending in tufts of radially arranged ultimate branches (ramuli)
4. stalks are often denuded below,

**Variations**
ramuli can be arranged in 2 rows of some plants growing on rock

**Special requirements:**
1. view the rarely-divided (coenocytic) filaments microscopically
2. measure the main stalks (axes): they should be 1.0 – 1.5mm across

**Occurrences**
from Streaky Bay, S. Australia, to Victoria and around Tasmania

**Usual Habitat**
growing on other plants, occasionally on intertidal rock of rough coasts, to 8m

**Similar Species**
*Bryopsis foliosa* from SW W. Australia, where ramuli arise in 2 rows, but that species has denser branching. *Bryopsis vestita* is also similar but in that species side branches arise radially.

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, pages 284–287

**Details of Anatomy**

Preserved (bleached) specimens, from Robe, S. Australia (A1100)

1. stalk (axis, ax), showing 2-sided arrangement of side branches (s br) tipped with dense tufts of dense, radially arranged ultimate branches (ramuli, ram)
2. a variation in ramuli arrangement – two-sided rows of ramuli at a branch tip

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
§ name used in Edgar, G. *Australian Marine Life, 2nd Ed.* (2008)
“Algae Revealed” R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, July 2005
Two plants of *Bryopsis gemellipara* J Agardh from S Australia

3. from Cape Northumberland (A56984)

4. from Waldegrave I. showing a definite 2-sided arrangement of side branches tipped with dense ramuli (A44257)

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