Callophycus costatus  
(Harvey) Silva

Techniques needed and shape

Classification

Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Gigartinales; Family: Areschougiaeae

*Descriptive name

veined and serrated red sea fern *(sea fern-a name used by Huisman for Callophycus)

Features

1. plants are dark red, 100-300mm tall, with several sturdy, flat main upright branches (axes) 4-5mm wide with a central vein
2. side branches are flat-branched, oppositely branched, often with toothed edges

Occurrences

sub-tropical distribution; W Australia and Queensland; see Huisman & Walker (1990) A catalogue of the marine plants of Rottnest Island, Western Australia, with notes on their distribution and biogeography. Kingia 349-459. This abbreviated Fact Sheet is included in case the species is found in the southern Australian province in the future.

Description in the Benthic Flora

Two views of Western Australian specimens of Callophycus costatus (Harvey) Silva
1. A31199 from Garden I., under reef ledges
2. A51117 from Rottnest I., 1-2m deep, magnified to show:
   • the prominent central vein
   • fainter veins in the side branches
   • serrated or toothed margins
   • cystocarps (arrowed) in small branches

Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used

*name used by Edgar, G (2008) in Australian Marine Life (2nd ed.).

"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, January 2008