

Caulerpa longifolia

C. Agardh

50.650



MACRO
PLANT



branching
in rows

tubular



Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Caulerpaceae

*Descriptive name

feather caulerpa; §long-filament caulerpa

Features

1. plant dark green, 150-500mm tall
2. upright branches *rarely* branching several times arise from a *coarse, naked* runner
3. ultimate-branches (ramuli) *linear*, curved upwards, usually in **5 rows** along the upright branches

Variations

1. there may be 4-6 rows of ramuli on the upright branches
2. a *slenderer*.form, *crispata*, has *shorter* more incurved ramuli *irregularly* arranged along the upright branches.

Special requirements



1. view thin ultimate branches (ramuli) up to 15mm long and about 0.5mm thick
2. ramuli are separated by about the width of a ramulus, but this is difficult to see as they are crowded together
3. to identify the 2 forms, find whether the ramuli are in regular rows (f. *longifolia*), or irregularly arranged (f. *crispata*)

Occurrences

1. f. *longifolia* is found from near the Head of the Bight to Victoria and Tasman
2. f. *crispata*: is found from near Perth to Victoria and Tasmania

Usual Habitat

on rough water coasts, in rock pools, to 40m deep

Similar Species

superficially like *Caulerpa cliftonii*, but the ramuli in that species are branched up to 5 times

Description in the Benthic Flora

 Part I, pages 260-263

Details of Anatomy

A preserved, (bleached) specimen of *Caulerpa longifolia* f. *longifolia* (A11047), from Robe S. Australia.

1. near the tips of branches, showing the long ramuli in distinct rows.
2. near the base of an axis.



* 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, August 2005, addition and code change December 2008

3.



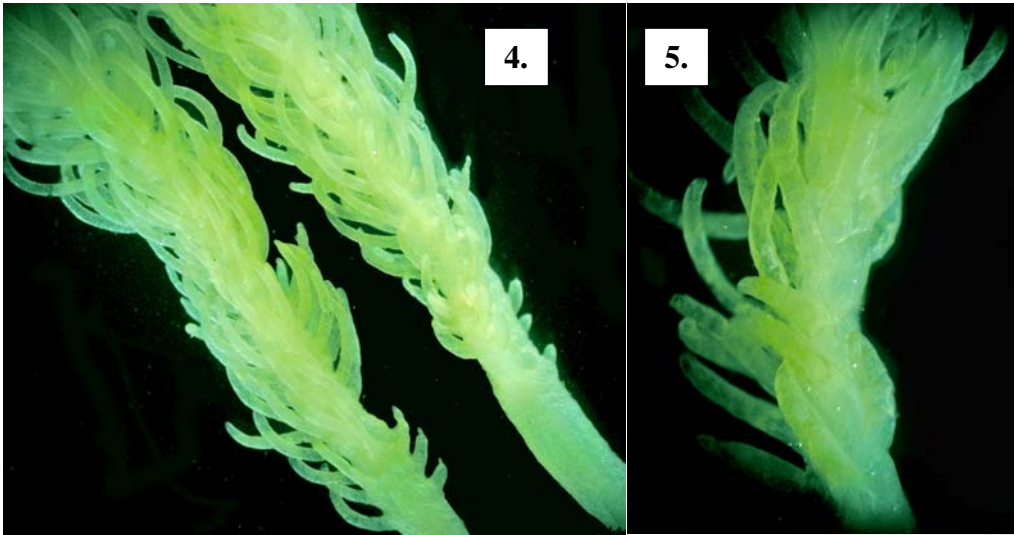
3. *Caulerpa longifolia* f.
longifolia (A2875), from
Pennington Bay,
Kangaroo I., S Australia

Caulerpa longifolia C. Ag.
Penguin I., Beachport, S. Aust.,
1-3m. deep,
11-VI-1973
Coll. R. K. Lewis
Det. H. B. S. Womersley

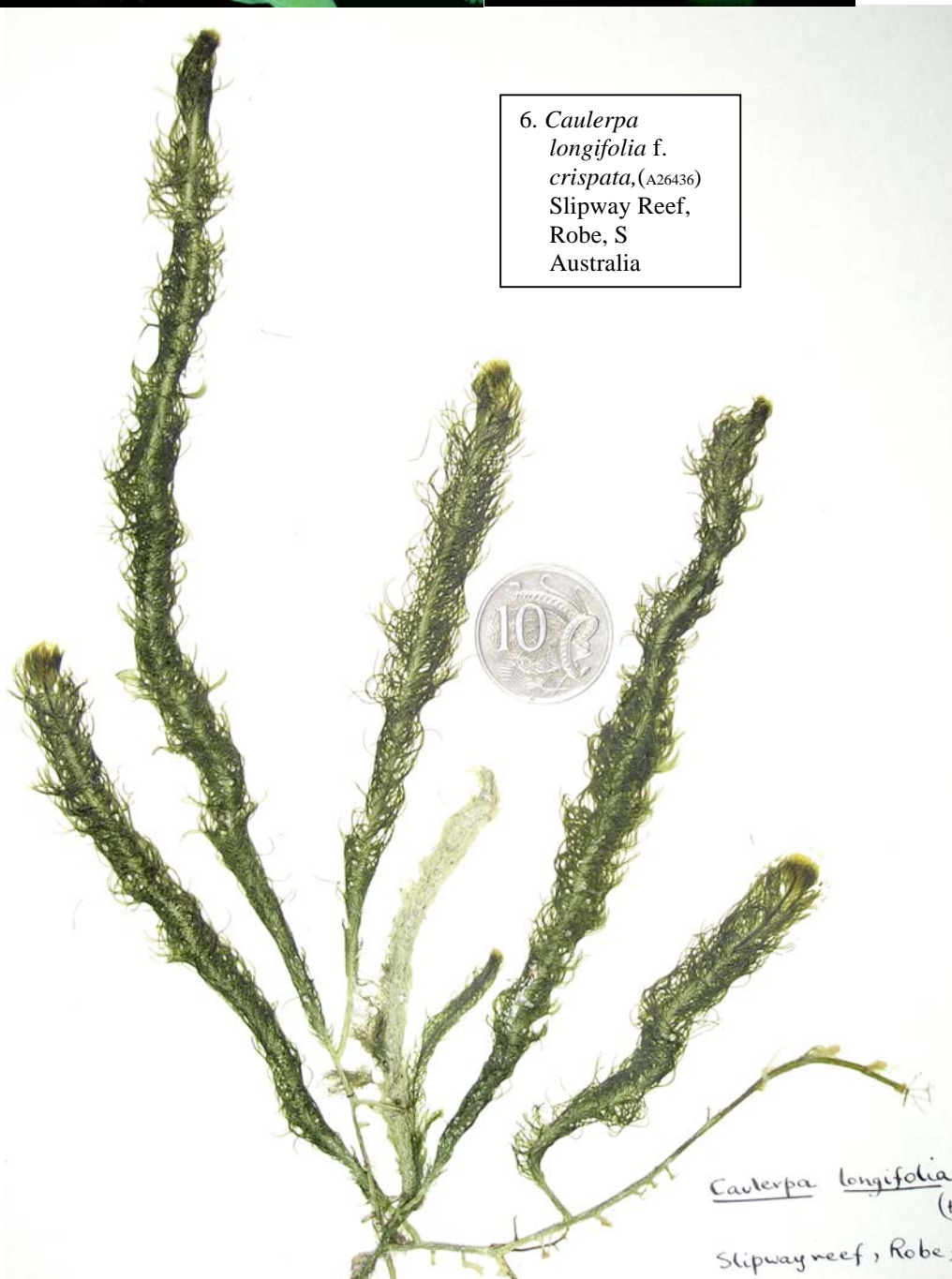
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4, 5. A preserved, (bleached) specimen of *Caulerpa longifolia* f. *crispata* (A50609) from Hamelin Bay, W. Australia, showing the shorter ramuli in less defined rows.



6. *Caulerpa longifolia* f. *crispata*, (A26436) Slipway Reef, Robe, S Australia

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