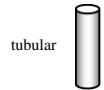
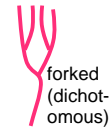


Techniques needed and plant shape



MACRO
PLANT



Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Codiaceae

*Descriptive name

forked velvet-weed; §southern codium

Features

1. plants dark green, to 500mm tall
2. branches cylindrical, ≈ 8mm in diameter, rubbery, forked many times

Special requirements



shave off or tease out a few of the microscopic, outer structures (utricles) and view them under the microscope. Utricles are **club-shaped**, flat-topped, 460-800µm long and 130-210µm in diameter with paired threads at the base containing constrictions or plugs

Occurrences

from southern W Australia to Victoria and Tasmania

Usual Habitat

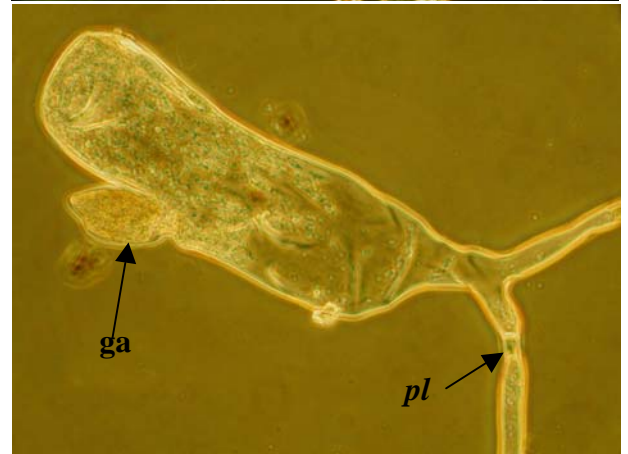
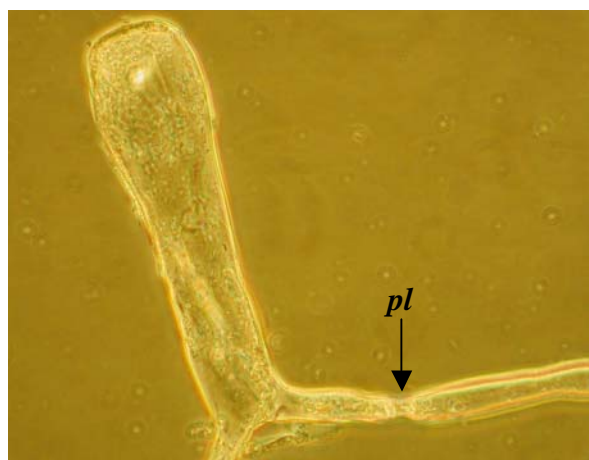
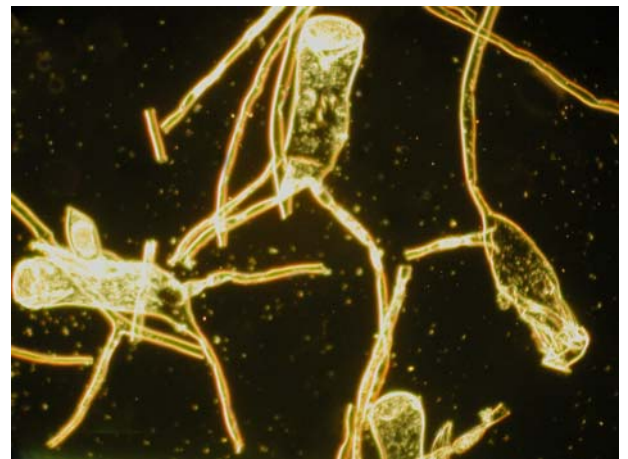
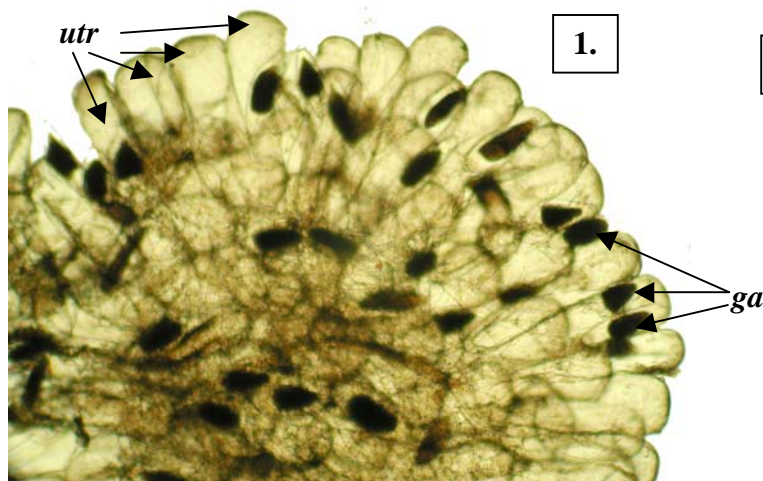
on rock at low water level in shaded sites to 33m deep,

Similar Species

Codium harveyi and *Codium muelleri*. Microscopic investigation of the utricles is needed to separate the species.

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 237-239

Details of Anatomy



Preserved specimens of *Codium australicum* (A18662) viewed microscopically

1. cross section showing outer layer of utricles (*utr*), some bearing dark coloured reproductive organs (gametangia, *ga*) (A18662)
2. dark field imaging highlighting the shape of detached utricles and their filamentous bases. (A18662)
- 3-4. detail of utricles showing their **flat tops**, an attached reproductive organ (gametangium, *ga*) and basal filament with **distinct** constriction (plug, *pl*)



Two views of *Codium australicum* Silva **in** Silva & Womersley, A34857, from Robe, S. Australia

* 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, September 2003