



Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Codiaceae

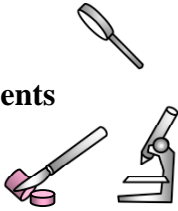
***Descriptive name**

flat-forked velvet-weed; §forked codium

Features

1. plants yellow-green, to 600mm tall, forked, velvety or felty in texture
2. cylindrical branches 3-10mm in diameter are usually, *flatter*, about 20mm broad, where they fork
3. tiny bottle-shaped outer parts (utricle) are just visible to the unaided eye

Special requirements



shave off a few of the microscopic outer structures (utricle). View under the microscope. Utricles are club-shaped, thin-walled, 650-1800µm long and 175-500µm, bear scars of deciduous hairs, and have paired threads at the base containing constrictions or plugs

**Occurrences
Usual Habitat**

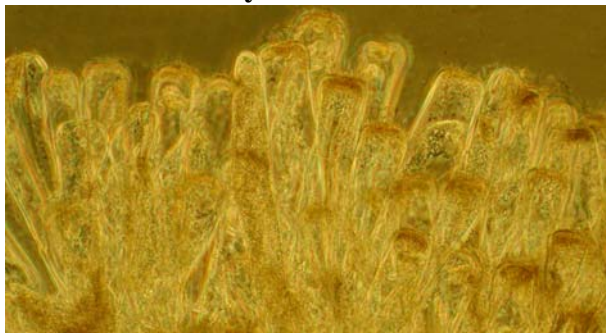
from central W Australia to Victoria and the N coast of Tasmania. Also S Africa on rock at low water level to 25m deep often in moderate or slight wave energy coastlines

Similar Species

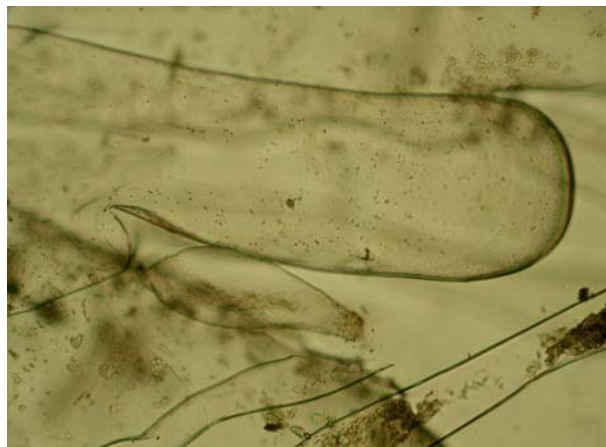
Codium fragile, but branches in this species are narrower, and utricle have an apical point

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 231, 233, 235-236

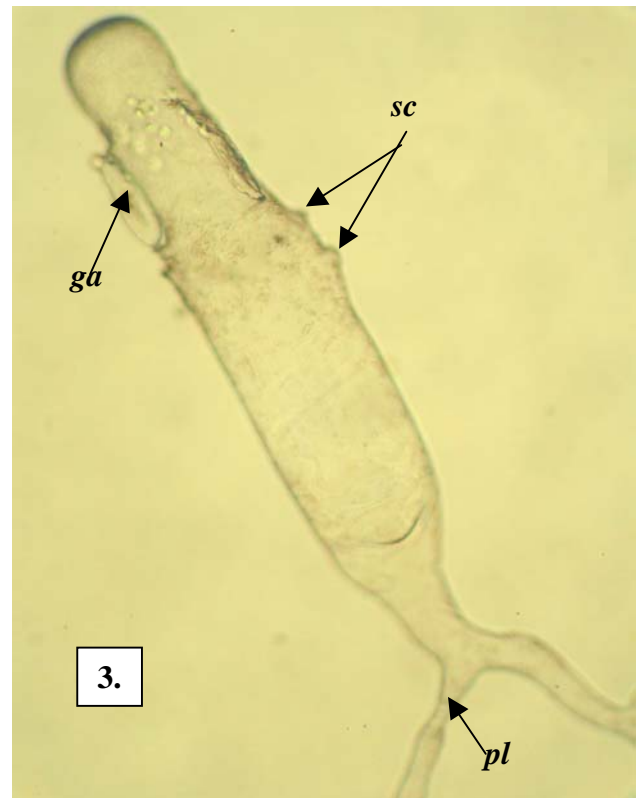
Details of Anatomy



1.



2.



3.

Preserved (bleached) specimens of *Codium duthieae* (A18659) viewed microscopically at different magnifications

1. cluster of utricles from shaving a branch showing thin walls and club-shaped appearance.
2. detail of the apex of a utricle, showing the rounded end and thin walls
3. single utricle with its basal filament and plug (*pl*), a reproductive organ (gametangium, *ga*) and scars (*sc*) where hairs have been shed.

5,175



Two magnifications of *Codium duthieae* Silva in Silva & Womersley, (A35175) 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