

 Some workers consider this genus should be sunk into *Dictyota*



Techniques needed

Classification

Phylum: Phaeophyta; Family: Dictyotaceae; Tribe: Dictyoteae

***Descriptive name**

undulating fork-tips; §crinkleweed

Features

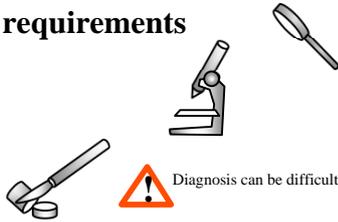
- 1. brown colour
- 2. plant often clumped, with ***narrow blades***, 2-4mm broad, and forked tips
- 3. the blade surfaces ***undulate***
- 4. hair tufts are ***scattered*** on the blade surface



Variations

Some plants have narrow branches at right angles to the main blades. Western populations generally have narrower blades.

Special requirements



- 1. view the depressions occurring on alternating sides of the blades that give the surface an undulating or wavy appearance
- 2. view the single, protruding apical cell at blade tips
- 3. cut a slice across a blade and view the middle (medulla) layer that has a single row of large cells except at the blade edge where there are several rows. The surface layer (cortex) consists of a single row of small cells

Usual Habitat

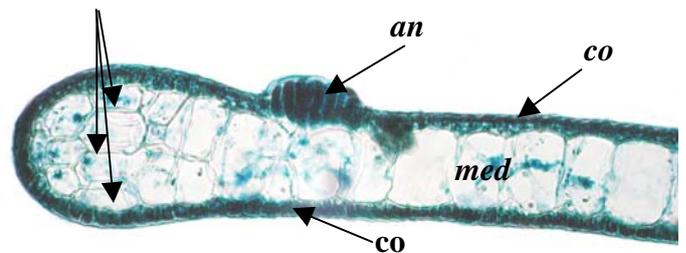
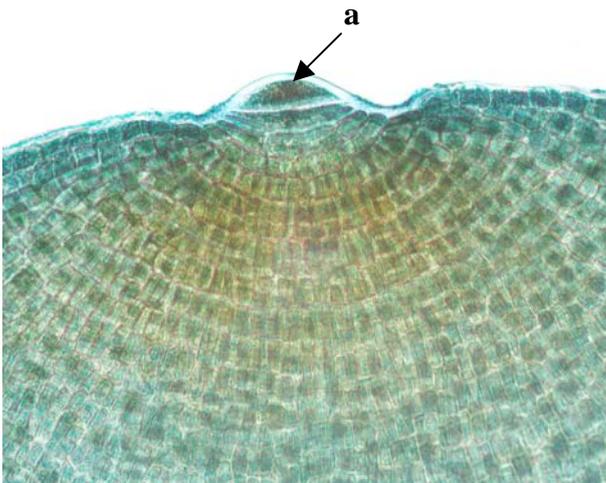
on rock or entangled with other algae, in shallow water, from Gulf St Vincent S Australia, to NSW, and on Lord Howe I.

Similar Species

Dilophus angustus, but blades do not have undulate surfaces and are generally narrower (1-2mm) in that species

Description in the Benthic Flora Part II, pages 202-204

Details of Anatomy



Above: Slice through a blade showing that the middle (medulla, *med*) layer consists of a single row of large cells near the midline of the blade, but several cell rows at the edge (arrowed). The surface layer (cortex, *co*) consists of a single row of small cells. A cluster (sorus) of male structures (*an*) can be seen on the upper surface.

Above: Detail of a blade tip showing the prominent, protruding apical cell (**a**) that continues the growth of the blade

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* 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 2003



Dilophus marginatus J Agardh A56810, in a shaded intertidal rock pool, Cape Northumberland, S Australia

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