



Techniques needed



Classification

Phylum: Phaeophyta; Family: Dictyotaceae; Tribe: Dictyoteae

***Descriptive name**

undulating fork-tips; §crinkleweed

Features

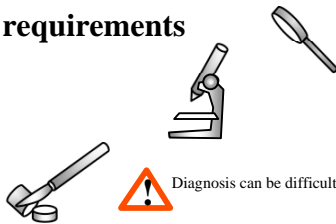
1. brown colour
2. plant often clumped, with ***narrow blades***, 2-4mm broad, and forked tips
3. the blade surfaces ***undulate***
4. hair tufts are ***scattered*** on the blade surface



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

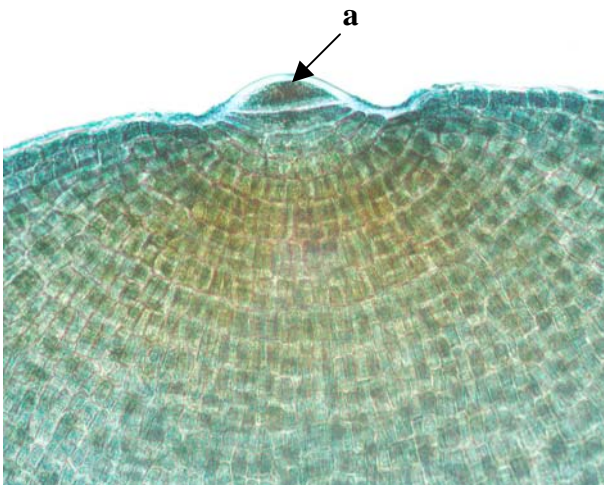
on rock or entangled with other algae, in shallow water, from Gulf St Vincent S Australia, to NSW, and on Lord Howe I.

Similar Species

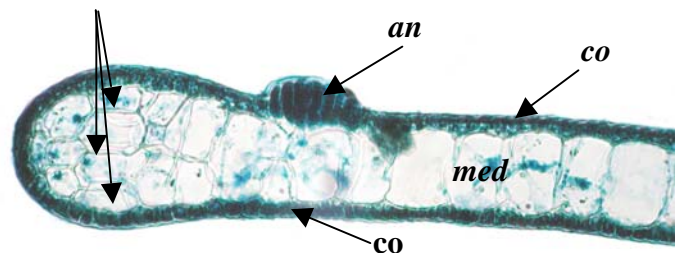
Dilophus angustus, but blades do not have undulate surfaces and are generally narrower (1-2mm) in that species

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

Details of Anatomy



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

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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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