



MACRO  
PLANT



**Techniques needed**

**Classification**

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Ulvales; Family: Ulvaceae

**\*Descriptive name**

green ribbon plant

**Features**

plants light green, 50-150mm tall, much-branched near the base, blades **narrow, tubular** or if flat, **hollow**

**Variations**

sometimes **unbranched**

**Special requirements**



view blades microscopically to see

- **tubular** construction if only at the bases of blades
- cells with **angular** sides in **long** lines in upper blade surfaces
- chloroplasts with **single, large** bright spot (pyrenoid)

**Occurrences**

worldwide in temperate waters. In S. Australia, in estuaries

**Usual Habitat**

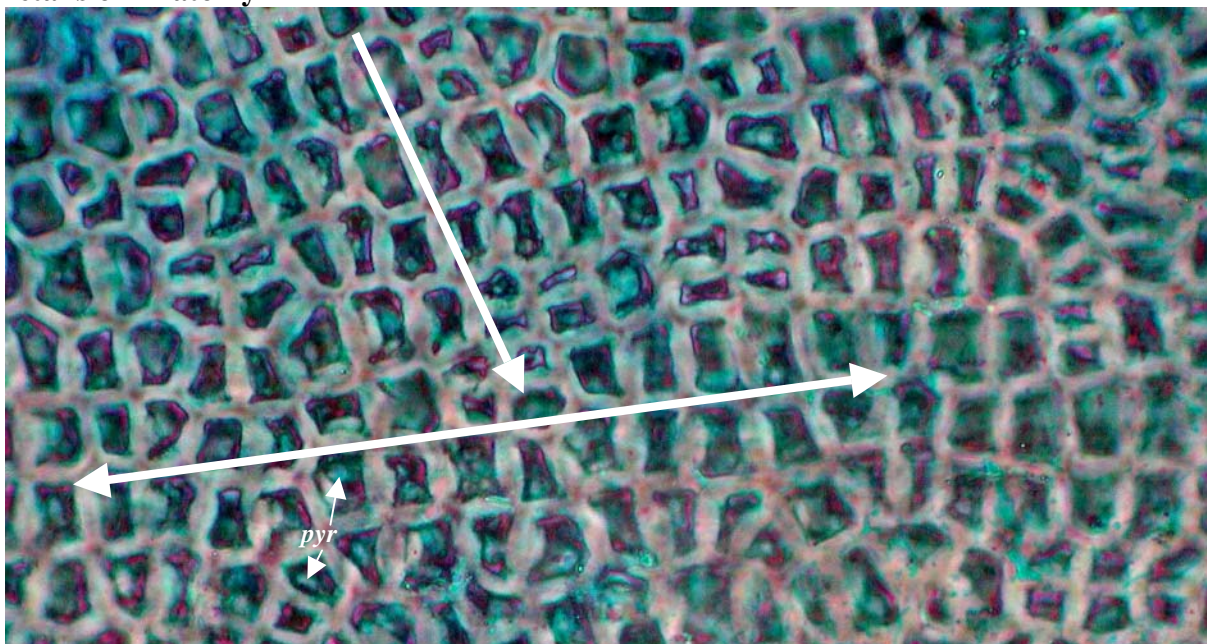
intertidal or in shallow water

**Similar Species**

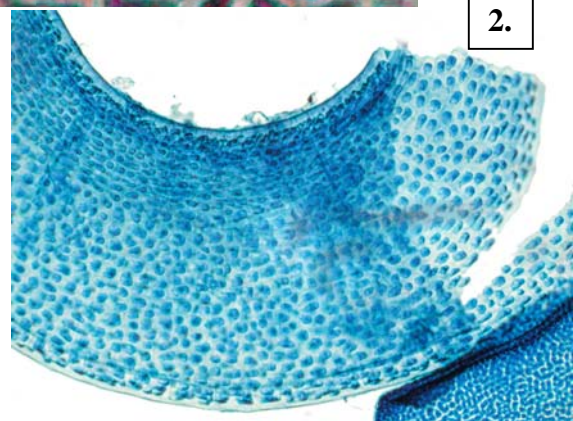
*Enteromorpha flexuosa*, where the cells are in long lines, but in *E. prolifera* there are obvious **cross rows** and cells have **one large** pyrenoid in chloroplasts, not 2-3

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, pages 153, 155-57

**Details of Anatomy**



1.



2.

*Enteromorpha prolifera* stained blue and viewed microscopically

1. surface view of cells from near the top and edge of a blade. Cells angular, lying in long lines and rows (arrowed), chloroplasts with **single, large** pyrenoids (*pyr*) (slide 7589)
2. torn edge of a tubular blade showing the hollow nature of the plant, and cells in surface view in long lines (slide 7537)

\* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used

*Enteromorpha prolifera* (Muller) J Agardh,  
(A5923g), from the estuarine Onkaparinga  
River above the township of Noarlunga  
(freshwater), S Australia

