**Techniques needed and shape**

**Classification**
Division: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Nitophyloideae
Group: Cryptopleura

**Descriptive name**
Flat-branched Cellophane Plant

**Features**
Plants 80-200mm tall, deep red or red-brown, of filmy blades 4-8mm wide, branched alternately from blade edges, midline veins absent, blade edges with no serrations

**Variations**
More irregular branching

**Special requirements**
View blades microscopically to view
1. The single row of small, dividing cells at blade edges that produce young blades one cell thick (older parts may be 3 or more cells thick)
2. Vague microscopic veins, 1 cell wide
3. Scattered patches of tetrasporangia near blade tips in sporangial plants

**Occurrences**
From Elliston West Coast S Australia, to Victoria & Tasmania

**Usual Habitat**
On rock, in moderately deep water

**Similar Species**
Hymenena multipartita, but in *H. affinis*, blades are broader, branching less regular and a thickened basal stalk is absent

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part IIID, page 137-139

**Details of Anatomy**

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

“Algae revealed”, R N Balock, State Herbarium S Australia, March 2003; additions August 2007; edited April 2014
3. *Hymenena affinis* (Harvey) Kylin, A42028, 10m deep from Fluted Cape, Bruny I., Tasmania
4. blade surface viewed microscopically without stain to demonstrate the difficulty of finding faint veins (arrowed) 1-cell wide (slide 17487)

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
“Algae revealed”, R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, March 2003; additions August 2007; edited April 2014