Kuetzingiella species

Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Phaeophyta; Order:Ectocarpales; Family: Ectocarpaceae

*Descriptive name

Surface tufts

Features

The plant body consists of a pad of equal-sided cells and erect threads growing on other brown algae

Special requirements

View microscopically the basal pads and tufts on the surface of other algae made up of threads with brown plastids, tapering into false hairs and elongate, stalkless (sessile) spore sacs with either many compartments (plurilocular sporangia) or a single compartment (unilocular sporangia).

Occurrences

Only known from bays in Victoria

Usual Habitat

Only on large brown algae and possibly also on rock

Similar Species

Other epiphytic brown, filamentous algae

Description in the Benthic Flora


Details of Anatomy

Magnified images of dissected pieces, partially stained blue, of Kuetzingiella sp (A49216, slide 4480) removed from the host plant, Cystophora torulosa, showing branched photosynthetic (assimilatory) filaments, fil ending in false hairs (f ha), closely adhering filaments of the basal pad (b p), stalkless sporangia with one or 2-rows of many compartments (plurilocular sporangia, pl spor) or a single compartment (unilocular sporangia, uni spor).

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

“Algae Revealed” R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, August 2005
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