**Techniques needed and plant shape**

**Classification**

Phylum: Phaeophyta; Family: Dictyotaceae; Tribe: Zonarieae

*Descriptive name*  
 tiny horn-tips; §spiralled forkweed

**Features**

1. plants dark brown-black, of small, 2-horned blades in a spiral pattern along cylindrical branches (axes)
2. curled tendrils at the base attaching often to other algae (epiphytic)

**Variations**

tips may have a single point

**Special requirements**

easily recognised because of its unique horned or 2-toothed tips

**Occurrences**

from southern W Australia to southern NSW, uncommon around Tasmania

**Usual Habitat**

on hard surfaces or other algae

**Similar Species**

**Description in the Benthic Flora**  Part II, pages 213-216

**Details of Anatomy**

Preserved (bleached) specimens of *Lobospira bicuspidata* (A70431) from Althorpe I., S Australia.

1. spiral arrangement of the blades
2. detail of two-horned tips of blades
3. tendrils and hooks from the plant base
4. cross section of a blade stained blue and viewed microscopically, showing the several irregular rows of cells (filaments on the blade surface belong to epiphytic microscopic organisms) (slide 5293)

* 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; correction and additions made August 2007
5. 6. two magnifications of *Lobospira bicuspidata* Areschoug (A35179) from shaded pools, Carpenters Rocks, S Australia

7. preserved specimen (A70431) from Althorpe L., S Australia

* 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; correction and additions made August 2007