**Nitophyllum fallax** J. Agardh

### Techniques needed and shape

#### Classification
- Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Ceramiales; Family: Delesseriaceae
- Tribe: Nitophyloideae; Group: Nitophyllum
- *Descriptive name*

#### Features
- Thin fronded red film-plant
- Plants red, 80-120mm tall, of flat, filmy, narrow, parallel-sided blades with thicker narrower stalks at the base, blades only slightly wavy at edges, teeth absent; branching irregular in one flat surface from blade edges

#### Special requirements
- View plants microscopically to find:
  - Growth occurs by divisions of cells along the margins of blades,
  - Microscopic veins absent, blades are one cell thick at edges, 3-layered elsewhere except for a many layered mid-line thickening
- In sporangial plants: tetrasporangial patches (sori) form bulges at the very edges of blades

#### Occurrences
- Known only from tetrasporangial plants at Port Phillip Heads, Victoria and 1.3km off Cape Northumberland, S. Australia

#### Similar Species
- Details of female carposporangia are required to definitely place this species into the genus *Nitophyllum*

#### Description in the Benthic Flora
- Part IIIID, pages 122-123

#### Details of Anatomy

1. Blade edge with a margin of dividing cells (no single apical cell) (slide 17314)
2. Tip of a blade with slightly wavy margins and marginal circular and elongate sporangial patches (sori, so) (slide 17779)
3. Detail of marginal sporangial patches (sori) (slide 17779)
4. Cross section through a sporangial sorus. Tetrasporangia (t sp) are produced on both side of the sorus (slide 17315)

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

“Algae revealed”, R N Baldock, State herbarium S Australia, October 2005; edited April 2014
* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used

“Algae revealed”, R N Baldock, State herbarium S Australia, October 2005; edited April 2014

**Nitophyllum fallax, J. Agardh, A48136, 15m deep off Cape Northumberland, S. Australia**