Techniques needed and shape

Classification

Division: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Nitophyllioideae; Group: Nitospinosa

*Descriptive name

Broad Saw-edge Film-Plant

Features

plants dark red-brown, 50-150mm tall, of basal stalks, leafy middle parts of the plant consisting of broad blades to 80mm wide, branching at margins, ultimate branches about 10mm wide, edges saw-toothed with spines and serrations (visible to the unaided eye) older blades may lose their saw-edge and become perforated

Variations

Special requirements

view blades microscopically to find:

- the growth of blades is the result of divisions of the apical cells of edge spines
- large irregularly arranged cells, a midline thickening and absence of veins

Occurrences

from Victoria and Tasmania

Usual Habitat

on rock

Similar Species

superficially similar to Platyclinia and some Myriogramme species, but in N. tasmanica, there are no microscopic veins, and the blade grows from divisions of the apical cells of the marginal spines or serrations

Description in the Benthic Flora

Part IIID, page 87-89

Details of Anatomy

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

“Algae revealed”, R N Baldock State Herbarium S Australia, March 2003; edited July 2014
Nitospinosa tasmanica Womersley A68327, 3-6m deep, Charlotte Cove Ninepin Point SE Tasmania: perforations occur in broad blades in the middle part of the plant

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