**Pedobesia clavaeformis**
(J. Agardh) MacRaild & Womersley

Techniques needed and shape

**Classification**
Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Derbesiaceae

*Descriptive name*
tufted green threads

**Features**
plants are dark green, 3-60mm tall, tufted of tubular branches arising from slender basal threads on rock with no visible cross-walls

**Special requirements:**
1. view the rarely-divided (coenocytic) filaments microscopically
2. find the black, ball-shaped spore sacs (sporangia) on one side near the tips of the branches
3. when grown in culture the spores produce flat discs, 2-6mm across, that have concentric growth rings. They are calcified and crack into segments like pieces of pie. These belong to a unique over-wintering stage and there is no sexual stage in the life cycle.

**Occurrences**
from SW W. Australia, Kangaroo I. S. Australia to Tasmania, Victoria and New Zealand

**Usual Habitat**
on rock in intertidal shaded pools to 20m

**Similar Species**
a distinctive and unusual species

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, pages 289, 292

**Details of Anatomy**

1. preserved and bleached specimen of *Pedobesia clavaeformis* (A37816), from Nora Creina, S. Australia, at different magnifications, showing the many tubular branches, with several ball-shaped spore sacs (arrowed) near their tips.

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

“Algae Revealed” R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, July 2005
3. *Pedobesia clavaeformis* (J. Agardh) MacRaild & Womersley (A37816), from Nora Creina, S. Australia, with some spore sacs arrowed.

4. Portion of a whole disc speckled with pores, showing the concentric growth rings.

5. Detail of a disc edge, showing pores and radial cracks.

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