



**Techniques needed and plant shape**

**Classification**

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Prasiolales (Schizogonales);  
Family: Prasiolaceae

**\*Descriptive name**

guano-threads (referring to the shape and usual habitat in bird colonies)

**Features**



plants yellow-green of unbranched threads forming tangled masses on soil or rock associated with bird colonies

**Special requirements**



view the filaments microscopically to see

1. threads of **irregular sizes**, with sections of single cell rows (uniseriate) interspersed with those of several rows
2. **small** cells **wider than long**, often in pairs or **packets** of 4
3. view the **single** central (often star-shaped) chloroplast with its single pyrenoid

**Occurrences**

**Usual Habitat**

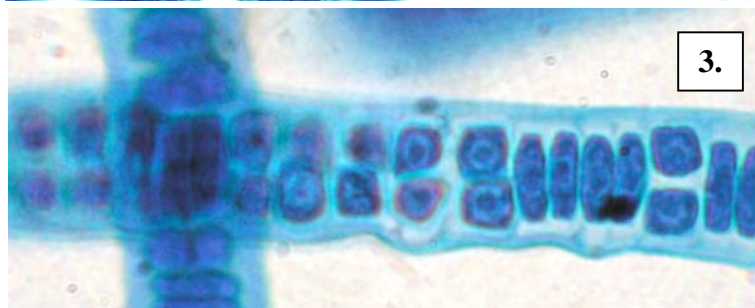
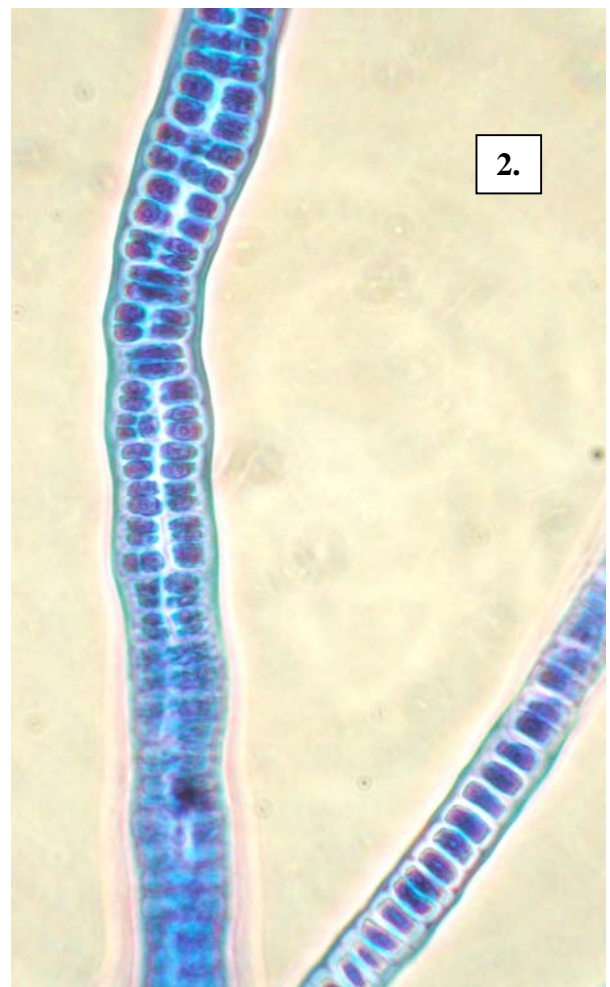
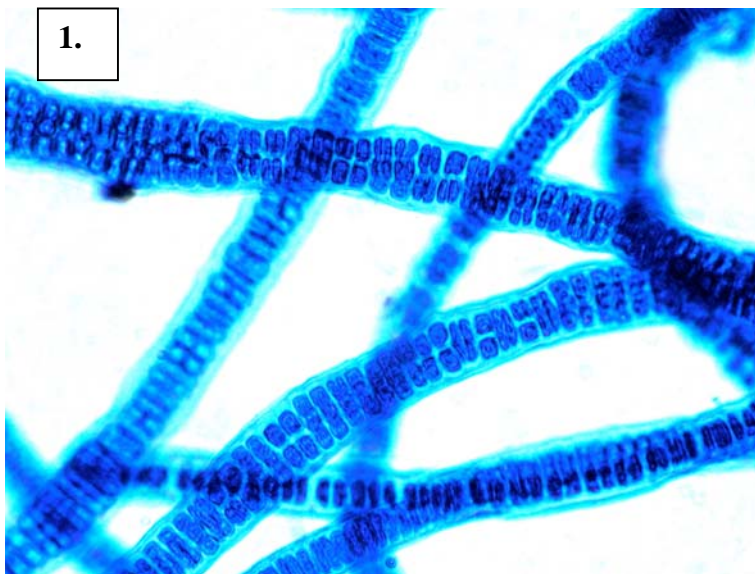
cool-temperate N Hemisphere waters and, locally, Kangaroo I., S. Australia on rock or wet soil just above high tide in bird colonies

**Similar Species**

superficially like several of the unbranched filamentous green algae, and *Percursaria* in the Ulvaceae, but distinguished by the cells wider than long and the central chloroplast.

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, page 164

**Details of Anatomy**



*Rosenvingiella polyrhiza* (slide 7618) stained blue and viewed microscopically at different magnifications  
1, 2. threads of various diameters, with single-ranked sections and many-ranked sections with cells in packets of 4  
3. detail of cells showing the single central chloroplast with pyrenoid, diagnostic of the Family

\* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used  
"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, October 2003



4. *Rosenvingiella polyrhiza* (Rosenvinge) Silva, (A5795b), from Pennington Bay, Kangaroo Island, S Australia, just above the intertidal
5. threads stained blue and viewed microscopically (slide 7618)

