**Schizoseris bombayensis**
(Børgeesen) Womersley

Techniques needed and shape

**Classification**

Phylum: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Nitophyloideae; Group: Myriogramme

*Descriptive name*

small red Vein-blades

Features

plants red-brown, fading to pink, fan-shaped, 10-50mm tall, of thin, filmy, flat-branched blades with prominent, broad, thick, forked mid-line veins; basal parts about 2mm wide, expanding to 30mm wide blades with ruffled edges

Variations

occasional tufts of rhizoids may occur at the edges of the blades

Occurrences

possibly widespread in the Indian Ocean. Also from S USA and Hawaii. In Australia, from the Queensland, Lord Howe I., Port Phillip Bay, Victoria and SE Tasmania on rock and shells, in shallow to deep water

**Usual Habitat**

on rock and shells, in shallow to deep water

**Similar Species**

Myriogramme, but there are no obvious mid-line veins in that genus

**Description in the Benthic Flora**

Part IIID, pages 112-114

view microscopically to find:

- in surface views: blades are generally one cell thick, except at mid-line veins and reproductive regions; dividing cells are in irregular lines
- in cross sections through scattered, swollen, postulate, developing female structures (cystocarps): large basal (fusion) cells, spreading branched threads (gonimoblast), terminal chains of sporangia (carposporangia), thin wrappings (involucres) of threads, slight necks, and single small openings (ostioles)
- in sporangial plants: scattered, irregular tetrasporangia on both sides of blades, covered by cells of the outermost layer (cortex)

**Details of Anatomy**

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

“Algae Revealed”, R N Baldock, State Herbarium, S Australia, January 2009; revised July 2014
Schizoseris bombayensis (Børgesen) Womersley from Williamstown Victoria, 5-6m deep
5. specimens A68032, unstained and stained blue with prominent broad, forked midribs, and pustule-like patches of sporangia
6. specimen A68330 with prominent sporangial patches (sori)
7. specimen stained blue and viewed microscopically: tuft of rhizoids on the ruffled edge (slide 18311)

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