**Tsengia feredayae**  
(Harvey) Womersley & Kraft

### Techniques needed and shape

**Classification**  
*Descriptive name*

- Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Gigartinales; Family: Nemastomataceae
- forked, red slippery-weed

**Features**

- Plants can show considerable variation

**Occurrences**  
New Zealand. West Coast, S Australia to Victoria and Tasmania

**Usual Habitat**  
in deep water or shaded shallows

**Special requirements**

- gently squash tissue under a coverslip and view microscopically to find
  - central (medulla) masses of intertwined threads; outer layers of branched chains of egg-shaped cells facing outwards, the inner cells large, packed with starch grains, grading outwards to small, coloured surface cells
  - in sporangial plants: scattered tetrasporangia in outer layers, divided irregularly in a cross pattern (cruciate)
  - in female plants: patches of large carposporangia in outer layers

when young or with few fringes, *Tsengia comosa* may resemble *T. feredayae*

### Similar Species

**Description in the Benthic Flora**  
Part IIIA, pages 275, 276–277

### Details of Anatomy

1. lengthwise view, female plant: core (medulla, *med*) of threads, outer layers (cortex, *co*) of branched chains of egg-shaped cells facing outwards (some detached); patch of carposporangia (*ca sp*)
2. detail of branch edge: forked tufts of cortical cells, consisting of smaller outer and larger inner cells
3. detached cortical tufts from a deep water specimen: single tetrasporangium (*t sp*) divided in a cross pattern (cruciate); lower cortical cells are packed with bright starch grains, large in this deep water specimen

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

“Algae Revealed”, R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, December 2011; revised August 2014
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