Anotrichium towinna Baldock

A SPECIES WITH FEW RECORDS

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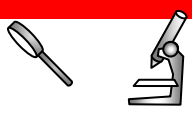
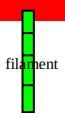




Techniques needed and shape

Classification Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Ceramiales; Family: Ceramiaceae
Tribe: Griffithsieae

***Descriptive name** spidery red threads

Features plants light or dark red, 30-50mm tall, of several irregular long threads (axes) consisting of long, cylindrical cells ***just visible*** to the unaided eye; 3- 4 ***spreading***, short, forked side branches are produced from upper ends of each cell of main axes

Occurrences only known from Kangaroo I., Coffin Bay and Point Sinclair S. Australia

Usual Habitat found in (attached to?) seagrass (*Posidonia*) beds

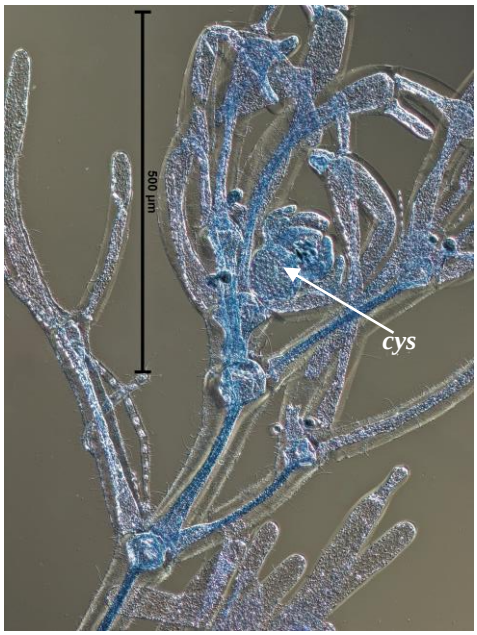
Special requirements view plants microscopically to find

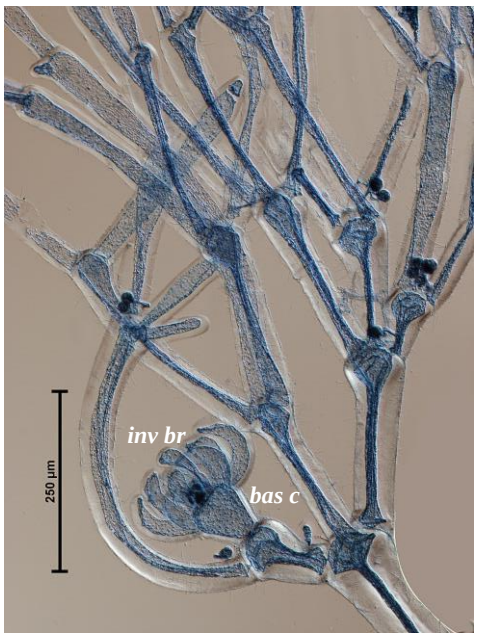
- in female plants: ***basket-shaped*** structures (cystocarps) in forks of upper branches each with inflated basal cell bearing a ring of small, curved, inflated sterile cells (***involucre***) and central masses of spores (***carposporangia***)
- in spore plants: tetrasporangia on short stalk cells ***(pedicels***), single in side branches

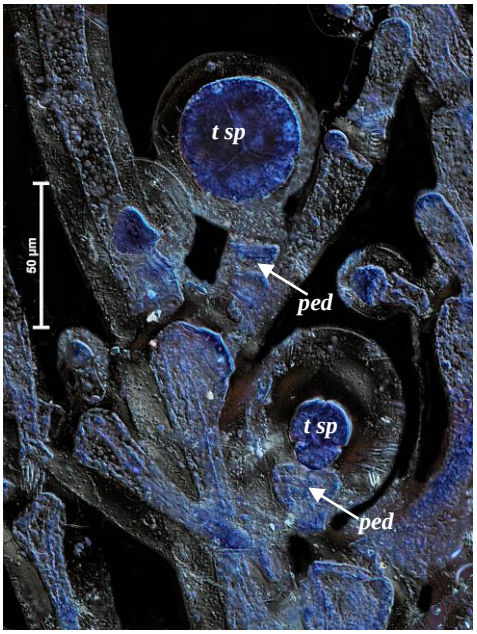
Similar Species *Baldockia verticillata* from Coffs Harbour, NSW and *Calliclavula trifurcata* from the USA belong to the same Tribe and have branches in 3's at each axial cell, but these arise in a different manner (see Part IIID, p. 345)

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIIC, pages 342, 344-346

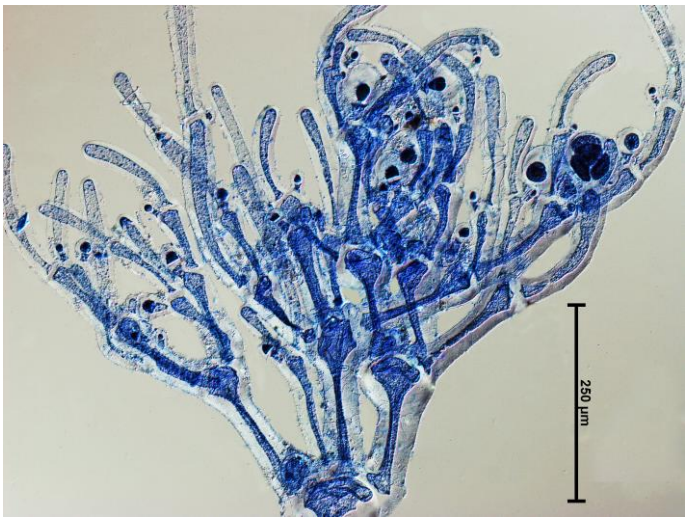
Details of Anatomy







1. **2.** **3.** **4.**



Anotrichium towinna stained blue and viewed microscopically:

1. young cystocarp (***cys***) in a side branch tuft (slide 16978)
2. maturing cystocarp: incurved involucral branches (***inv br***) swollen bas cell (***bas c***) (slide 16978)
3. detail of tetrasporangia (***t sp***), stalk cell (pedicel, ***ped***) (slide 0407)
4. side branch tuft with single stalked tetrasporangia (slide 0407)

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

"Algae revealed", R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, October 2005; edited November 2007; revised July 2014

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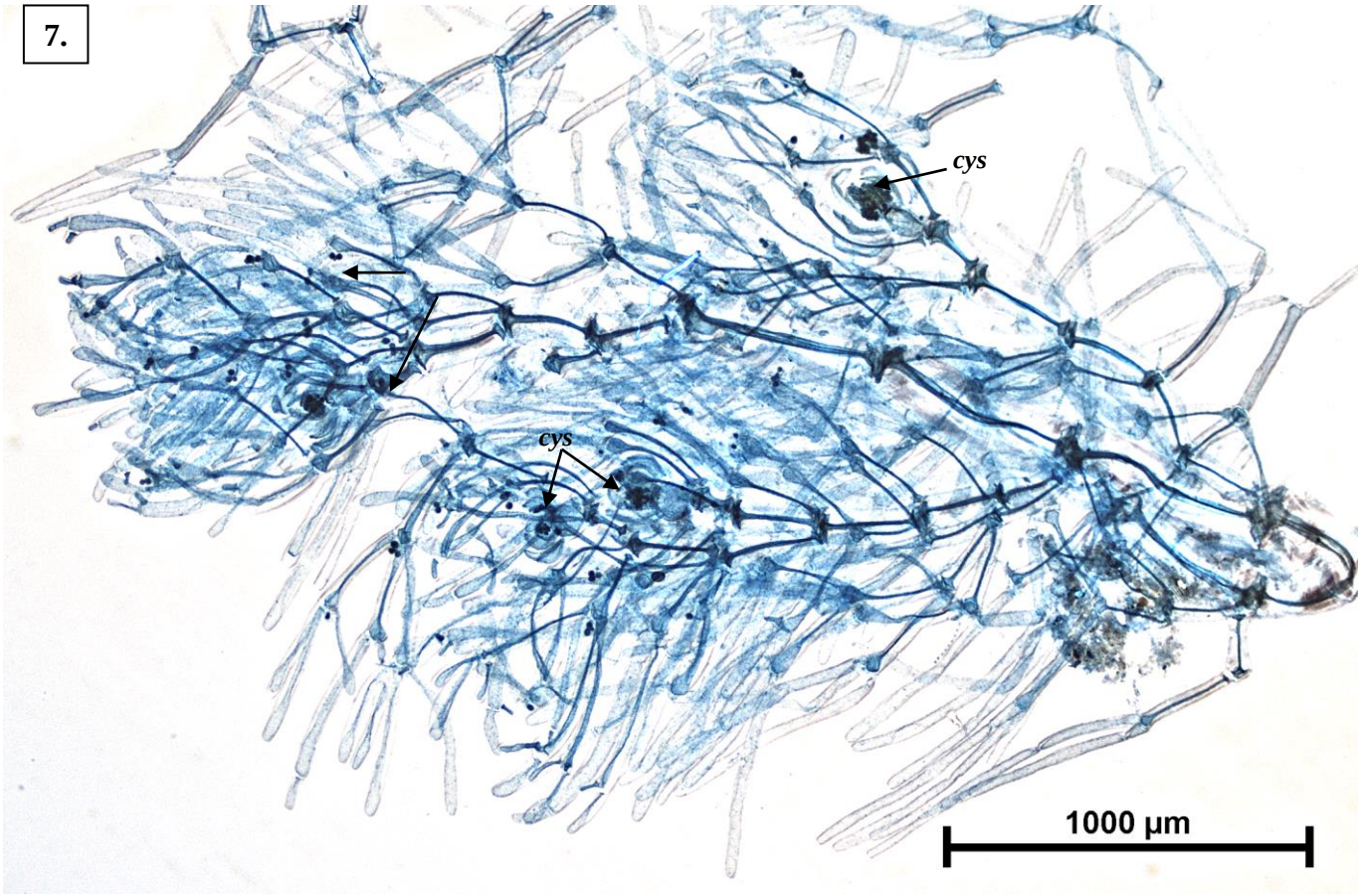

Anotrichium towinna Baldock, from South Australia

5. plant from Saunders Beach, Kangaroo I. (A28222)
6. from American River, Kangaroo I.: magnified view of the branching pattern (A26898)
7. stained blue and viewed microscopically (slide 16978): branching pattern, cystocarps

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