Chaetomorpha coliformis (Montagne) Kützing

50.530

Techniques needed and shape


MACRO PLANT

Classification Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Cladophorales; Family: Cladophoraceae

***Descriptive name** §mermaid's necklace

Features

1. plants occur as single or clustered ***strands***, 100-400mm long, of light to deep green chains of ***large***, cells, ***glistening*** like a necklace
2. strands ***increase*** in diameter upwards and are ***attached*** at their bases
3. cells are ***elongate*** at the ***base*** of the plant and about 1mm long, but ***ball-shaped*** and up to 5mm across near the strand ends

Special requirements —

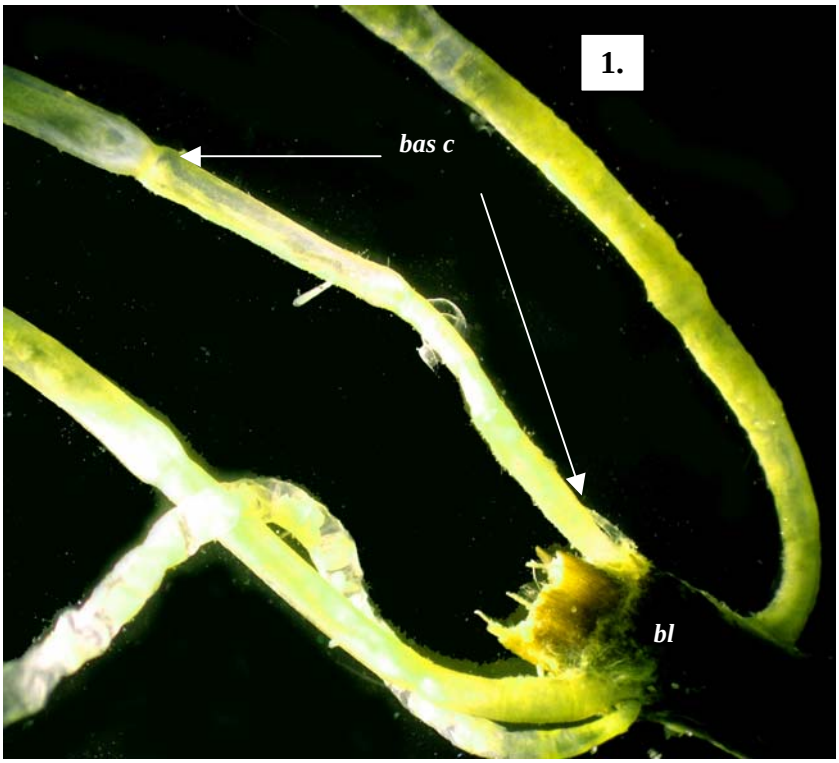
Occurrences from Venus Bay, Eyre Peninsula S Australia to Tasmania, New Zealand and S America

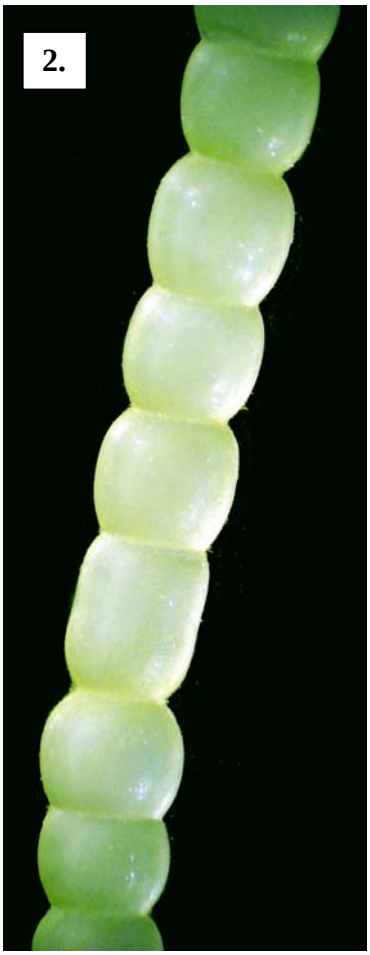
Usual Habitat usually growing on seagrass and algae, widespread on coasts of rough and moderate wave energy and common in rock pools

Similar Species —

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 171-173, 175,

Details of Anatomy





1-2. *Chaetomorpha coliformis* (A53158): a preserved specimen showing the contrast in shape between
1. a single basal cell (*bas c*), attached to a piece of seagrass blade,(*bl*) and
2. cells of the upper part of a thread shown

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
§ name used in Edgar, G. *Australian Marine Life, 2nd Ed.* (2008)
"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, June 2007

3.

4.

3, 4. Two views of pressed specimens of *Chaetomorpha coliformis* ((Montagne) Kützing, (A18665) from Port Elliot, S Australia, showing the bead-like strands increasing in diameter from the base upwards

5. Magnified view of preserved material of *Chaetomorpha coliformis* (Montagne) Kützing, (A52991), showing a bead-like strand with a cell dividing

5.

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