



**Techniques needed and shape**

**Classification**

**\*Descriptive name**

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Cladophorales; Family: Cladophoraceae  
loose-lying rough green threads (differing in touch to other softer thread-like green algae such as *Cladophora*)

**Features**



plants occur as tangled, green, **unattached** strands to 150mm long in **shallow** water

**Special requirements**



view the threads microscopically to find:

1. threads are **mostly unattached**, fairly **straight** and 105-130µm wide
2. threads are the **same width** throughout their length
3. cells are box-shaped, with length to breadth (L/B) = 1.5-2.5
4. cell walls are relatively **thin** and often collapse when dried.

**Occurrences**

from India and Queensland. In southern Australia, from Walpole Inlet, W Australia and Coffin Bay, S. Australia to Port Phillip, Victoria.



Probably more widespread but un-observed

**Usual Habitat**

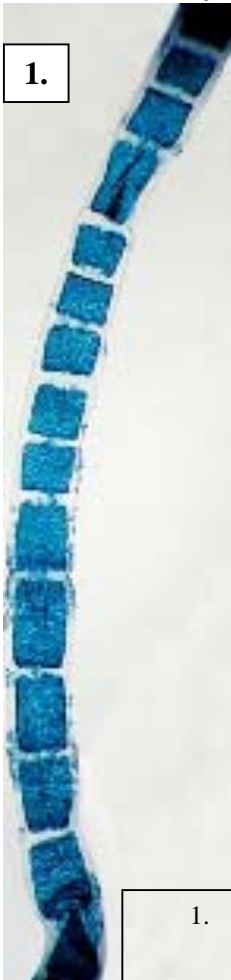
in shallow sheltered water, often tangled with other algae

**Similar Species**

other unattached *Chaetomorpha* spp with hair-like threads found on tidal flats, for example, *Ch .capillaris* but in *Ch .indica*, filaments are thicker, cell walls thinner and plants are found in the upper subtidal.

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, pages 177, 178, 180

**Details of Anatomy**



2.



1. *Chaetomorpha indica* slide (6798) stained blue and viewed microscopically to show
  - straight, unbranched threads
  - box-shaped cells where L/B = 1-2, with relatively thin cell walls
2. *Chaetomorpha indica* (A13756b) from Coffin Bay, S Australia in shallow water on tidal flats

\* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used  
"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, June 2007