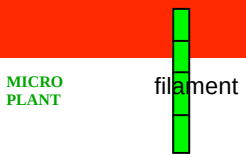
Cladophora aegagropiloidea van den Hoek & Womersley

A SPECIES WITH FEW RECORDS

50.530

Techniques needed and plant shape





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

***Descriptive name** floating green balls

Features 

plants consist of un-attached, ***free-floating*** balls 10-30mm across, of interwoven threads or filaments

Special requirements 

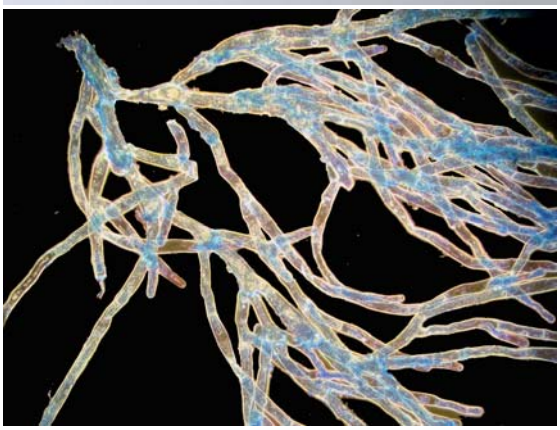
1. view the ***branched*** filaments under the microscope
2. most axial cells bear 1-3 branches; in older parts the branching is opposite and cell walls are ***thick*** and ***layered***
3. some branches may grow "backwards" (polarity is reversed) or have rhizoids at their base
4. lateral branches often arise from vertical surfaces of other filaments (***laterally*** inserted) a short distance from the apex of cells
5. chloroplasts form a stringy net (***reticulate*** pattern)

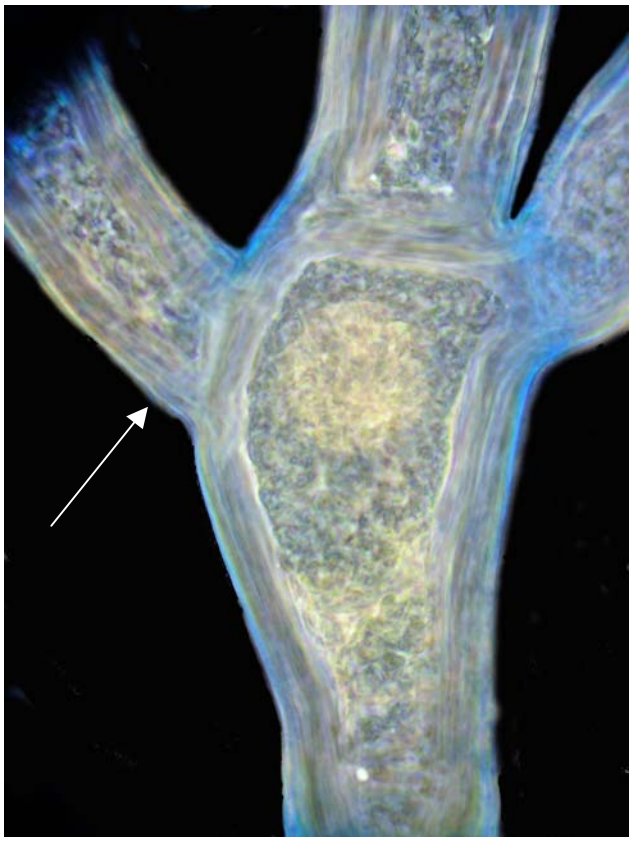
Occurrences only known from one collection at the Bay of Shoals, Kangaroo Island, S. Australia

Similar Species similar to a freshwater species, *Cladophora aegagropila* (L.) Rabenhorst, but *C. aegagropiloidea* is marine and its cells are narrower

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 189, 190-191

Details of Anatomy





1. two specimens of *Cladophora aegagropiloidea* (A12607)

2, 3. specimens (slide 6726) stained blue and viewed microscopically at different magnifications, showing thick, layered cell walls and characteristic branching pattern (one branch, arrowed, arising a short distance from the cell apex)

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