



MICRO
PLANT

Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Codiaceae

***Descriptive name**

green velvet cushion

Features

plants yellow green, cushion-shaped, \approx 20mm high and 20-80mm in diameter, rubbery, surface velvety

Variations

plant may be more lobed than cushion-shape

Special requirements



shave off or tease out a few of the microscopic, flask-shaped outer structures (utricles) and view them under the microscope. Utricles club-shaped, 900-1700 μ m long and to 375 μ m in diameter, top *helmet-shaped*, end wall thick, paired threads basally with internal constriction (plug)

Occurrences

southern W Australia to Victoria and north coast Tasmania

Usual Habitat

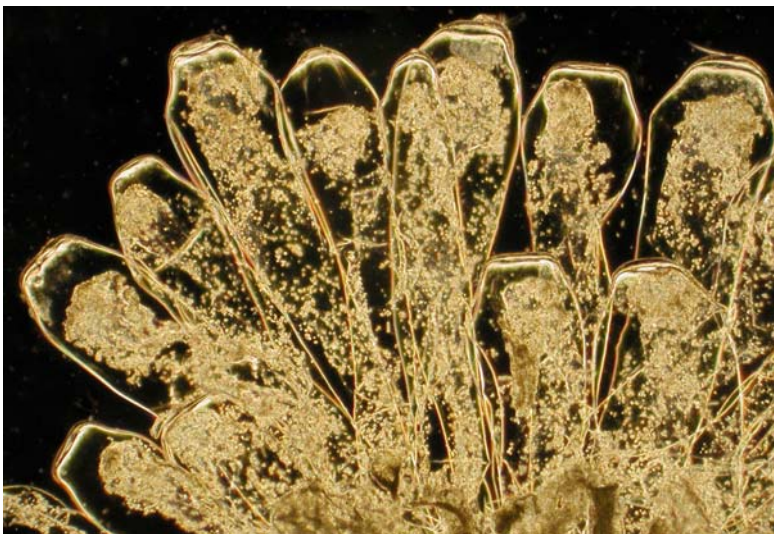
intertidal rock pools to 32m deep usually on rough water coasts

Similar Species

Codium spongiosum although that species is more lobed. Microscopic investigation of the utricles is needed to separate the species.

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 228-229

Details of Anatomy



Preserved (bleached) specimens of *Codium perrinae* (A20014) viewed microscopically at different magnifications

1. utricles from a shaving of the plant surface, using dark field microscope imaging to highlight the helmet-shaped utricule ends
2. Detail of utricule tips showing the thickened end walls and helmet (galeate) shape



Codium perrinae Lucas, (A37803) from Robe, S. Australia

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, July 2003