

Halimeda cuneata Hering

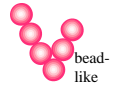
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MACRO PLANT



flat-branched



bead-like

Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Udoteaceae

*Descriptive name

flat beads; §green necklace weed

Features

plants pale green, to 150 mm tall, branches forked and flat-branched, of stiff, wedge-shaped segments with flexible joints

Special requirements



1. plant calcified, effervesces if acid is added
2. surface (cortex) consists of tightly packed, microscopic, inflated ends (utricles) of underlying large threads
3. shred some tissue and view microscopically to see the colourless, tangled, inner (medullary) threads that fork but do not have cross walls, and end in large, inflated inner utricles and surface or cortical utricles.

Occurrences

a subtropical species, from SE Africa, Lord Howe I. off the E coast of Australia and from W. Australia

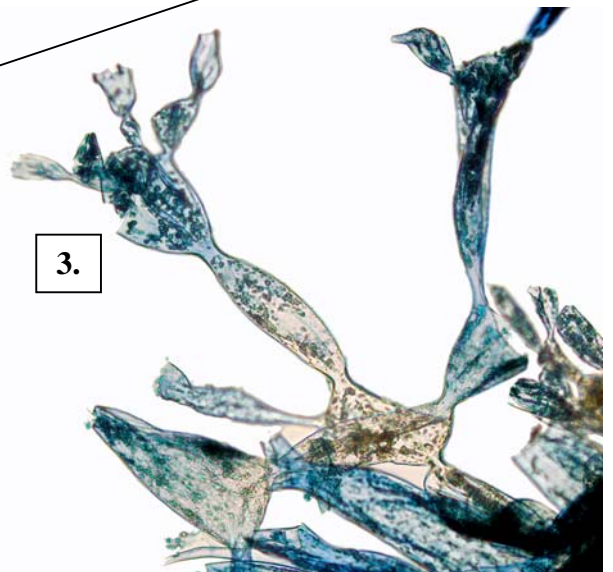
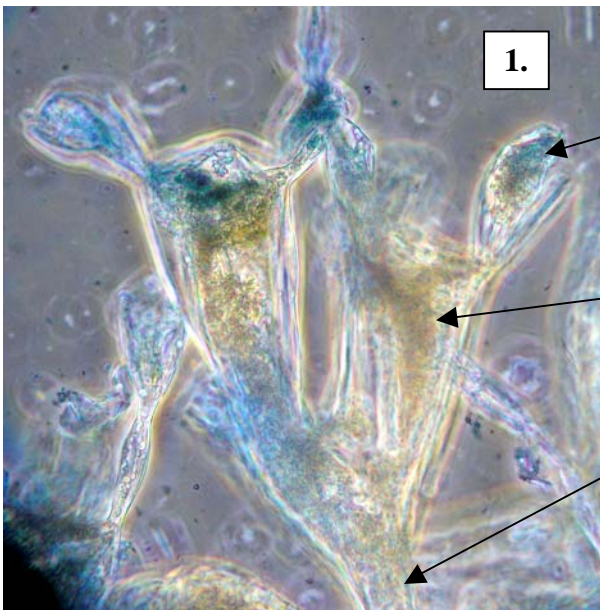
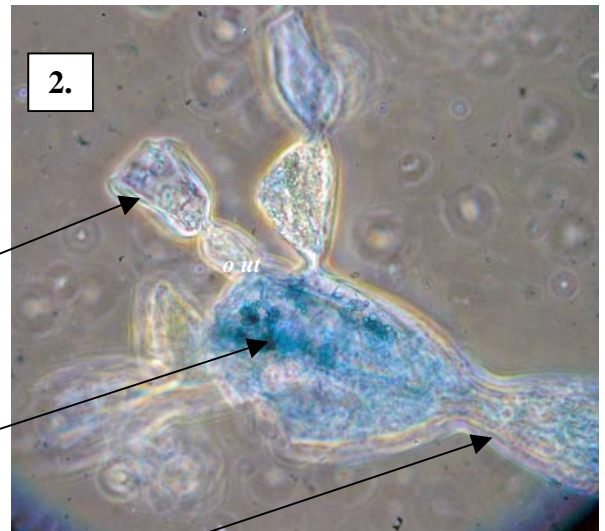
Usual Habitat

on rock, often in shaded crevices

Similar Species

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 243-246

Details of Anatomy



- 1-3 shredded, de-calcified segments of *Halimeda cuneata* stained blue and viewed microscopically
- 1, 2. large, colourless, inner threads (medullary filaments, *med fil*) that have no cross walls, ending in large, inner inflated branches (utricles) (*in utr*) facing outwards with terminal, smaller, closely packed surface utricles (*o utr*) (slide 20539)
 3. branching filaments making up the inner (medullary) layer (slide 50610)

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
 §name used by Edgar, G (2008) in Australian Marine Life (2nd ed.).
 "Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, June 2005

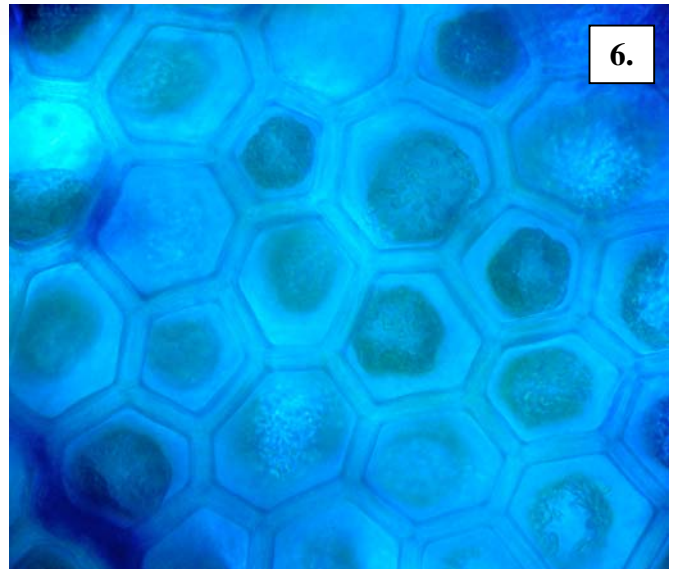
4.



5.



6.



- 4, 5. Specimens of *Halimeda cuneata* Hering (A33136) from Pt Denison, W Australia
6. microscopic surface view stained blue of inflated ends (utricles) of underlying filaments closely adhering together into an unbroken surface layer or cortex (slide 20539)

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