Myriogramme cartilaginea (Harvey) Womersley

A SPECIES WITH FEW RECORDS

45.880

Techniques needed and shape MACRO PLANT — foliose

Classification Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Ceramiales; Family: Delesseriaceae
Tribe: Nitophylloideae; Group: Myriogramme

***Descriptive name** small, red film plant

Features plants dark red, leafy (foliose), filmy, 40-80mm tall; blades 4-6mm wide, branching irregularly alternately every 5-10mm

Special requirements

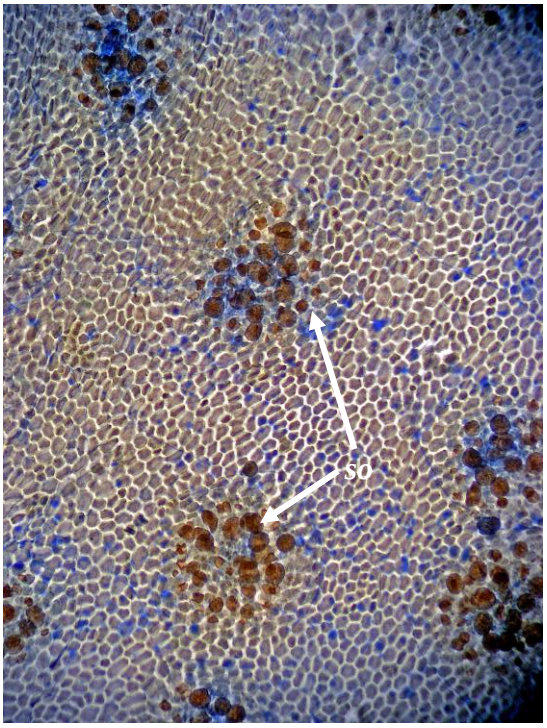
1. view plants microscopically to find:
   irregular, slightly curled and bluntly toothed margins to blades, cells dividing along the edge of blades; true veins ***absent*** (although patterns of surface cells around spore patches may give the impression of veins); sporangia in round patches (sori) scattered across blades
2. in cross sections find:
   blades are one cell thick (monostromatic) when young but later 3-layered (***trisomatic***), except centrally where there may be many layers

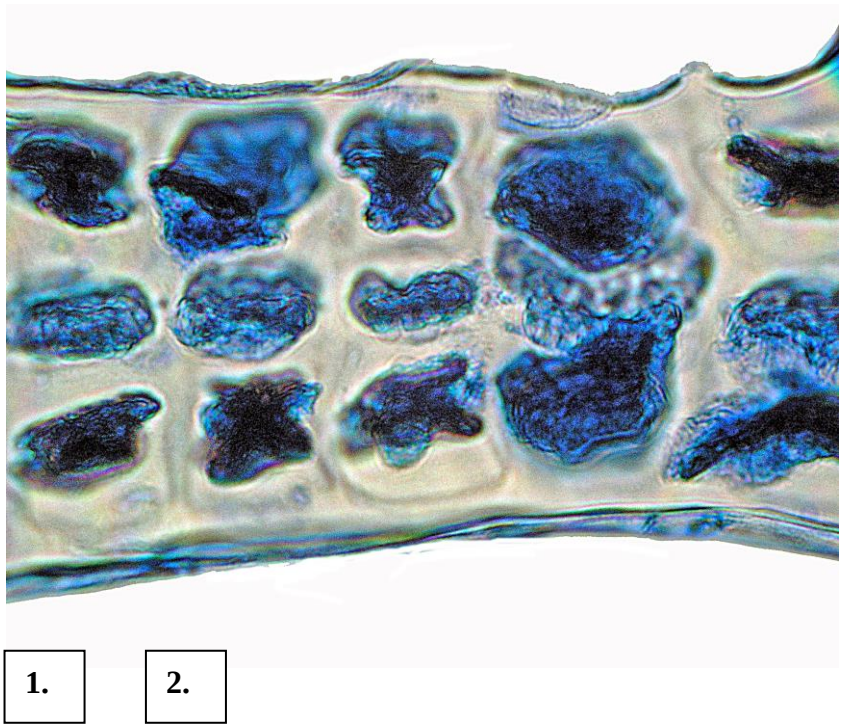
Usual Habitat sporangial plants known from Garden I., W Australia and, probably on *Osmundaria*, 7m deep at Elliston, S. Australia,

Similar Species the placement of this rare species into this genus is uncertain because cystocarps, needed for confirmation, are unknown

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIID, pages 110-11

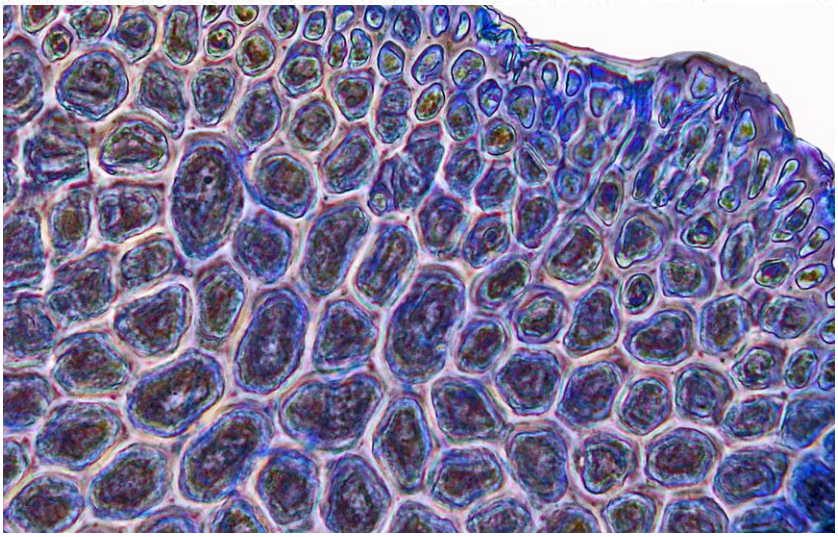
Details of Anatomy





1. **2.**

Different magnifications of *Myriogramme cartilaginea* (Harvey) Womersley, slide 0726, stained blue
1. surface view of scattered tetrasporangial patches (sori, ***so***)
2. cross section showing the 3-layered (trisomatic) structure of equal-sized cells



3. *Myriogramme cartilaginea* (Harvey) Womersley, A18533 from Garden I., W. Australia, enlarged to show the irregular, slightly curled and bluntly toothed margins to blades
4. *Myriogramme cartilaginea*, slide 0726, stained blue and viewed microscopically: small marginal cells that continue the growth of the blade, irregularly arranged angular cells in surface view

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
"Algae revealed" R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, October 2005; edited April 2014