Nitospinosa pristoidea
(Harvey) Womersley

45.880

Techniques needed and shape

Classification Division: Rhodophyta; Class: Ceramiales; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Nitophylloideae; Group: Nitospinosa

***Descriptive name** Saw-edged narrow-bladed Film-plant

Features plants 60-250mm tall, dark red, of flattened stalks with forked, thin, flat, narrow blades 1-2 mm wide, branching at the ***margins***, veins ***absent***, blades edged with irregular, microscopic, many-celled spines

Special requirements

view blades microscopically to find "sawtooth" margins, the blade growth the result of dividing apical cells of spines; large, irregularly arranged cells and midline thickening

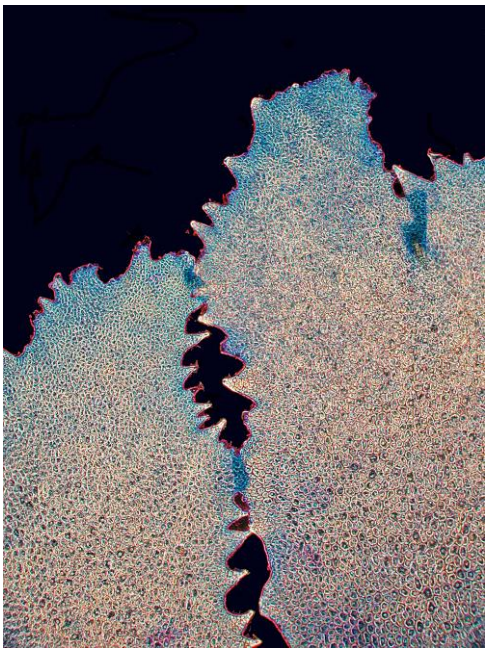
Occurrences from West Coast S Australia to Victoria

Usual Habitat a common species on rock, or other plants (especially *Sonderopelta*)

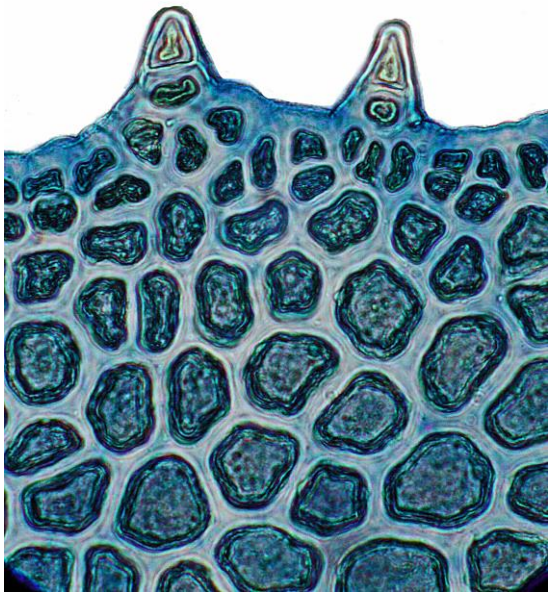
Similar Species superficially similar to *Acrosorium* in size of blades, but that species has microscopic veins, smooth blade edges, and terminal blades have crooked ends

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIID , page 85-87

Details of Anatomy



1. **2.**



3.

Niospinosa pristoidea

1. blades backlit to emphasize the minute teeth that produce a ragged edge and swollen female structures (cystocarps, ***cys***) (A88913)
2. enlarged, dark field imaging of blade edges: irregular serrations (the "shining spines" from which the genus gets its name), and lack of microscopic veins (slide 17812)
3. microscope view of young spines on a blade edge (slide 17812)

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

"Algae revealed" R N Baldock, State Herbarium of S Australia, March 2003, updated April 2012; edited July 2014

Nitospinosa pristoidea (Harvey) Womersley, A13560b; a drift plant from Elliston, S. Australia

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