# *Nitospinosa tasmanica*
**Womersley**

**45.880**

**Techniques needed and shape**




**Classification** Division: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Nitophylloideae; Group: *Nitospinosa*

***Descriptive name** Broad Saw-edge Film-Plant

**Features** plants dark red-brown, 50-150mm tall, of basal stalks, leafy middle parts of the plant consisting of broad blades to 80mm wide, branching at ***margins***, ultimate branches about 10mm wide, edges ***saw-toothed*** with spines and serrations (visible to the unaided eye)

**Variations** older blades may lose their saw-edge and become perforated

**Special requirements**

view blades microscopically to find:

- the growth of blades is the result of divisions of the apical cells of edge spines
- large irregularly arranged cells, a midline thickening and ***absence*** of veins

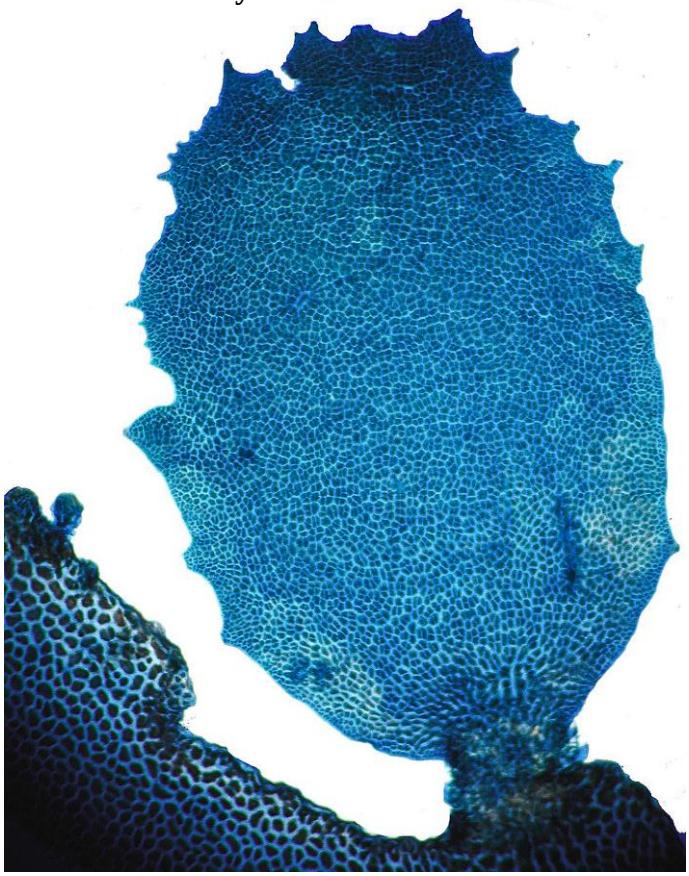
**Occurrences** from Victoria and Tasmania

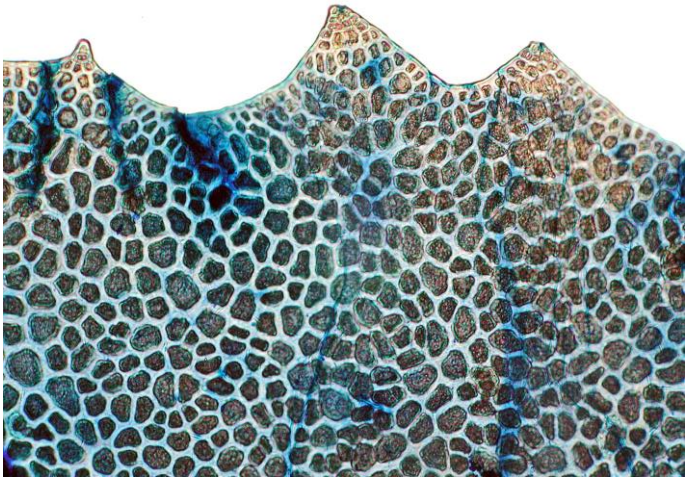
**Usual Habitat** on rock

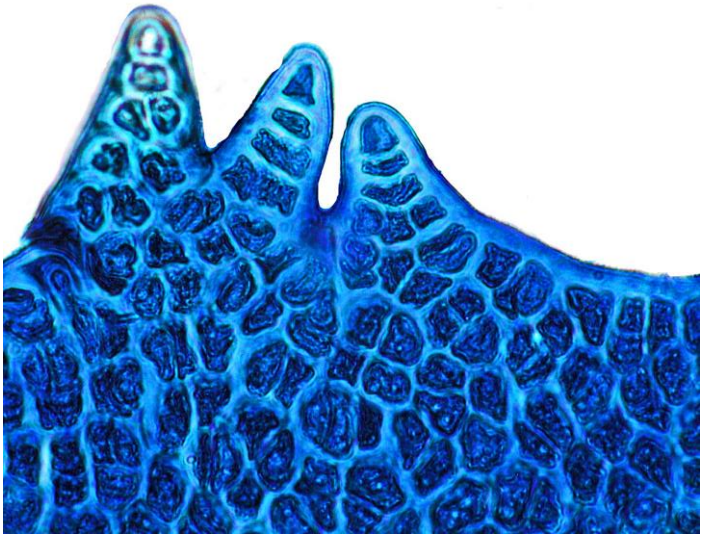
**Similar Species** superficially similar to *Platyclinia* and some *Myriogramme* species, but in *N. tasmanica*, there are no microscopic veins, and the blade grows from divisions of the apical cells of the marginal spines or serrations

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part IIID , page 87-89

**Details of Anatomy**







*Nitospinosa tasmanica* stained blue and viewed microscopically (slide 1824):

1. young blade developing at the edge of an older one. The irregular saw-tooth serrations have been eroded in the mature blade
2. detail of the margin of a mature blade: serrations, and thick-walled surface cells
3. microscope preparation stained blue: spine apical cells act as the growing points for the whole blade

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

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

*Nitospinosa tasmanica* Womersley A68327,
3-6m deep, Charlotte Cove Ninepin Point SE Tasmania:
perforations occur in broad blades in the middle part of the plant

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