Scageliopsis patens
E M Wollaston

A SPECIES WITH FEW RECORDS

45.800.36

Techniques needed and plant shape



MICRO PLANT


Classification Phylum: Rhodophyta; Order: Ceramiales; Family: Ceramiaceae; Tribe: Heterothamnieae

***Descriptive name** red threads

Features  plants consist of tiny, red tufts to 10mm tall growing on other marine life

Occurrences Semaphore to Pt Noarlunga, S Australia, but probably more widespread because of its diminutive size

Special requirements  view microscopically to find

- main branches (axes) of ***large***, naked (ecorticate) cells each bearing ***2-3, equal-sized***, short whorl branchlets opposite or in a ring, forked from basal cells 2-3 times, widely ***spreading*** (patent), bearing bright gland cells
- tetrasporangia ***stalkless*** on the inner (***adaxial***) sides of branches, divided ***cross-wise*** or with 2 pairs of sporangia at right angles (***decussate***)
- carposporophytes, the products of fertilisation), with bunches of sporangia (gonimolobes) on the ***basal*** cell of a whorl branchlet, lower fertile cells undergoing some ***fusion***, partly wrapped by whorl branchlets with growth ***continuing*** past the gonimolobes
- small male spermatangial clusters on the ***inner*** sides of branches


cruciate

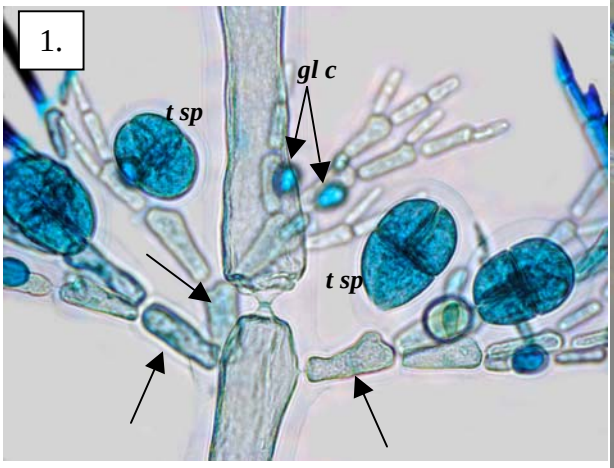
decussate

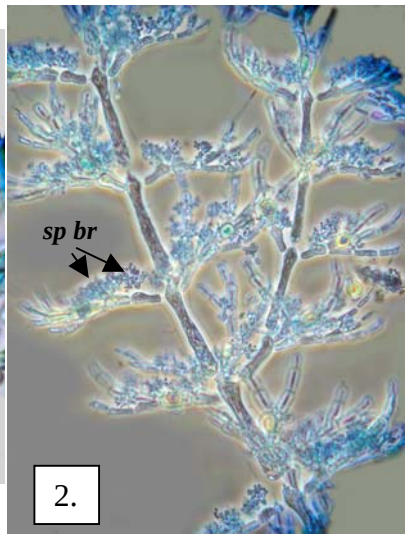
Usual Habitat usually epibiontic (growing on other organisms)

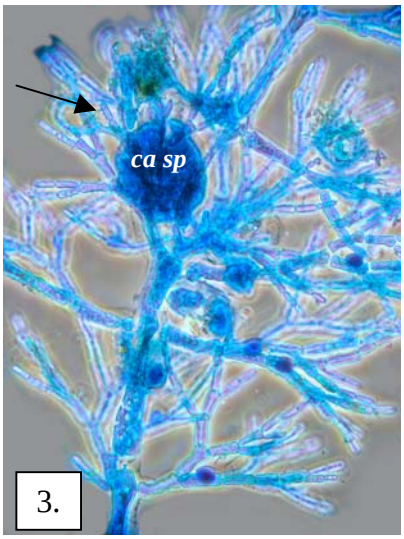
Similar Species *Trithamnion* spp, which also have rings of whorl branchlets in 3's, but in that genus in each ring there are 2 short and 1 longer whorl branchlet and the ***basal*** cells of whorl branchlets are ***unbranched***

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIIC, pages 175-178

Details of Anatomy







Scageliopsis patens stained blue and viewed microscopically:

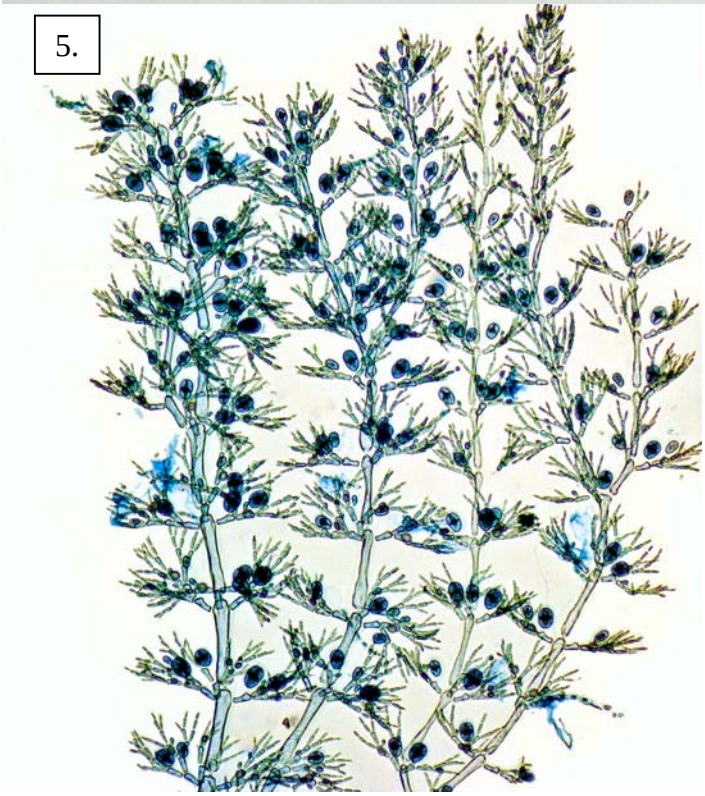
1. stalkless tetrasporangia (*t sp*), ***branched*** basal cells of whorl branchlets (arrowed) and gland cells (*gl c*) (A50327 slide 16682)
2. spreading branching of whorl branchlets with tiny clusters of male branches on their inner sides (spermatangial branches, *sp br*) (A41320 slide 4266)
3. carposporophyte (*ca sp*), the product of fertilisation, with continued growth of whorl branchlets (arrowed) above (A47974 slide 2276)

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
"Algae Revealed" R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, March 2007

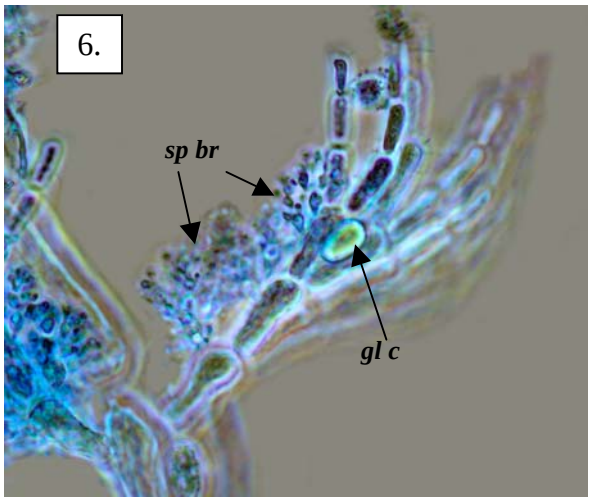
4.

Scageliopsis patens E M Wollaston A50327, on stalks of a bryozoan on a jetty pile, Pt Stanvac, S Australia, 3-12m deep

5.



6.



4. *Scageliopsis patens* E M Wollaston A50327, on stalks of a bryozoan on a jetty pile, Pt Stanvac, S Australia, 3-12m deep

5, 6. specimens stained blue and viewed microscopically

5. spreading rings of whorl branchlets (A50320 slide 16682)

6. details of male spermatangial branches (*sp br*) and a gland cell (*gl c*) (A41320 slide 4266)

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