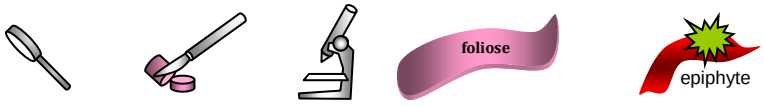
Womersleya monanthos
(J Agardh) Papenfuss

45.880

Techniques needed and shape



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

***Descriptive name** a veinless Film-plant

Features

a deep-water, dark red ***epiphytic*** species: basal blades lie against host plants and produce thin, upright, blades with ***smooth*** edges, veins ***absent***, branching from blade ***edge***s

Special requirements

view blades microscopically to find

- at blade tips: ***obscure***, single apical cells, ***packets*** of dividing cells, ***faint*** cell lines
- in cross sections: core (medulla) of large cells, outer layers (cortex) of several regular rows of cells

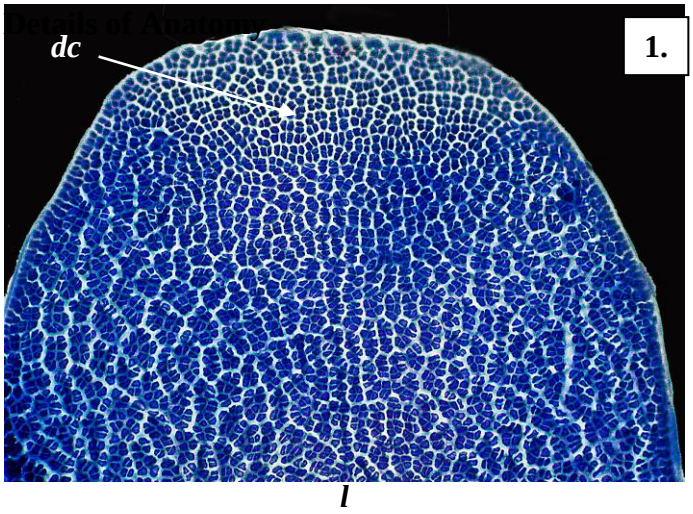
Occurrences from SE of S Australia to Tasmania

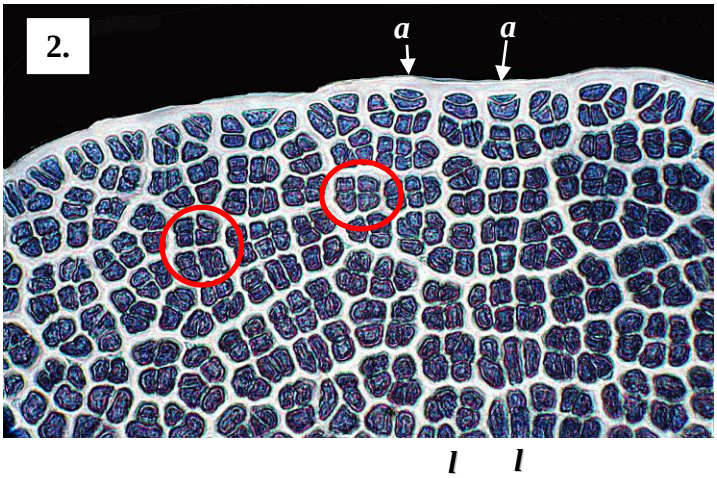
Usual Habitat on other large algae (*Acrocarpia*, *Gelidium*), in deep water or in caves in shallow water

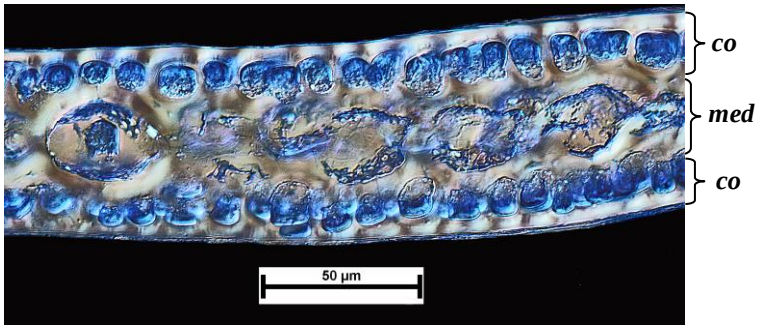
Similar Species superficially similar to some species of *Hymenena* and *Nitophyllum*; but *Womersleya* has ***no*** microscopic veins, and blades are several cells thick, particularly in the midline

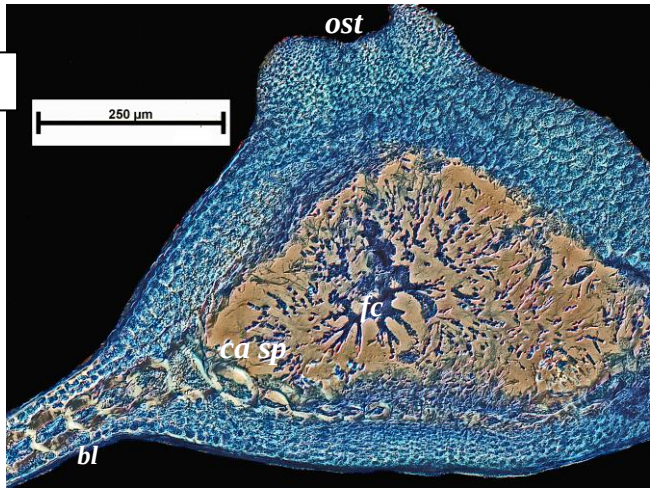
Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIID, page 77-79

Details of Anatomy









Womersleya monanthos stained blue and viewed microscopically

1. blade tip: mass of dividing cells (***dc***), faint lines of cells (***l***) in the midline of the blade, blade margins smooth (slide 0740)
2. blade tip, detail: obscure apical cells (***a***), lines of cells (***l***), cell divisions producing packets of cells (2 circled) (slide 0740)
3. cross section: core (medulla, ***med***) of large cells, outer layer (cortex, ***co***) of small cells (slide 17224)
4. cross section of a mature female structure (cystocarp): beak with opening (ostiole, ***ost***), fusion cell (***fc***), chains of sporangia (***ca sp***), blade (***bl***) (slide 17224)

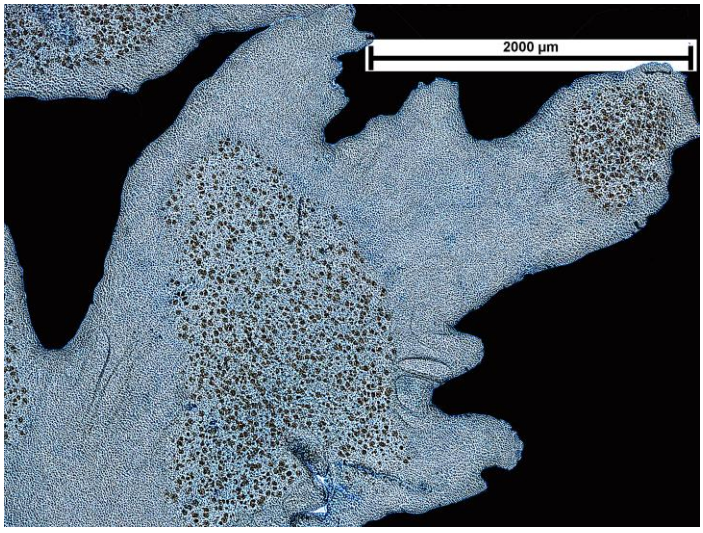
* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used

"Algae Revealed", R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, March 2003; additions August 2007; revised August 2014

5.

6.

7.



Womersleya monanthos (J Agardh) Papenfuss:
5, 6 two magnifications of a female plant bearing cystocarps, from 10m deep, Fluted Cape, Bruny I., Tasmania, (A42027)
7. surface view, sporangial blade stained blue and viewed microscopically: patches (sori) of tetrasporangia (slide 17225)

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