



**Techniques needed plant shape**

**Classification**

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Ulvales; Family: Ulvaceae

**\*Descriptive name**

false mangrove *Enteromorpha*

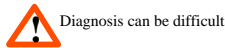
**Features**

1. plants grass green in **tangled masses** about 20mm tall of thin threads grow on the basal parts of **samphires** and **mangroves** or in **shaded** intertidal regions
2. each plant grows from a **basal pad**



**Special requirements**

1. view the relatively small cells (6-9µm across) **in lines** along the **tubular** branches
2. chloroplasts are **single** and **central** in each cell and have a **single** pyrenoid (difficult to see microscopically)
3. threads are cylindrical and **hollow**



**Occurrences**

from southern W Australia and St Vincent Gulf, S Australia (probably more widespread according to Womersley)

**Usual Habitat**

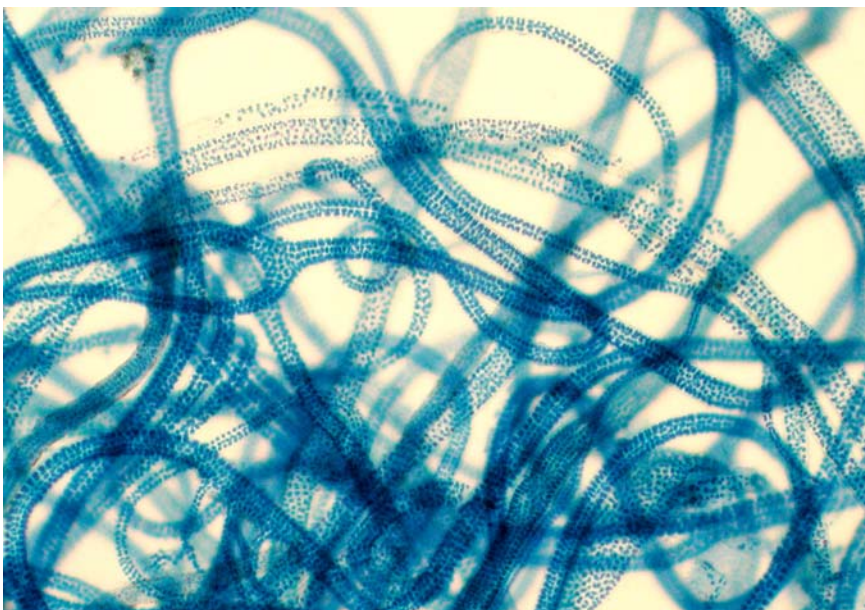
in calm situations on the basal parts of samphires, mangroves or in shallow intertidal pools

**Similar Species**

*Enteromorpha* species (especially *E. ralfsii*, *E. paradoxa*) but cells of *Blidingia* are very small, and threads are anchored to the substrate by a **pad of tissue** (not by rhizoids)

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Part I, pages 137, 139, 150-151

**Details of Anatomy**



1,2 specimens of *Blidingia marginata* (slide 7563) stained blue and viewed microscopically  
1. mass of tubular filaments, showing some branching  
2. detail of tubular branches, showing lines of small cells



*Blidingia marginata* (J Agardh) P Dangeard, (A16080b) from Ardrossan, S Australia  
in the mid-intertidal