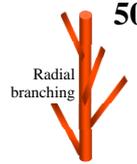
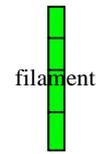


Bryopsis vestita J. Agardh



MACRO
PLANT



50.670

Techniques needed and shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Bryopsidales; Family: Bryopsidaceae

*Descriptive name

dense green tufts; § tufted bryopsis

Features



1. plants bright green, densely tufted, 50-250mm tall
2. many upright stalks (axes) arise from basal branching rhizoids
3. side branches and ultimate branches (ramuli) arise in an irregular **radial** pattern
4. side stalks may be denuded below

Variations

lower side branches may be denuded except at their tips, giving the whole main axis a lance-shaped outline

Special requirements:



1. view the rarely-divided (**coenocytic**) filaments microscopically
2. measure the main stalks (axes): they should be **0.5 – 1.0mm** across
3. view the ramuli near the stalk tips to see the characteristic **radial** arrangement

Occurrences

from Cape Northumberland, S. Australia to Wilsons Promontory, Victoria, and around Tasmania

Usual Habitat

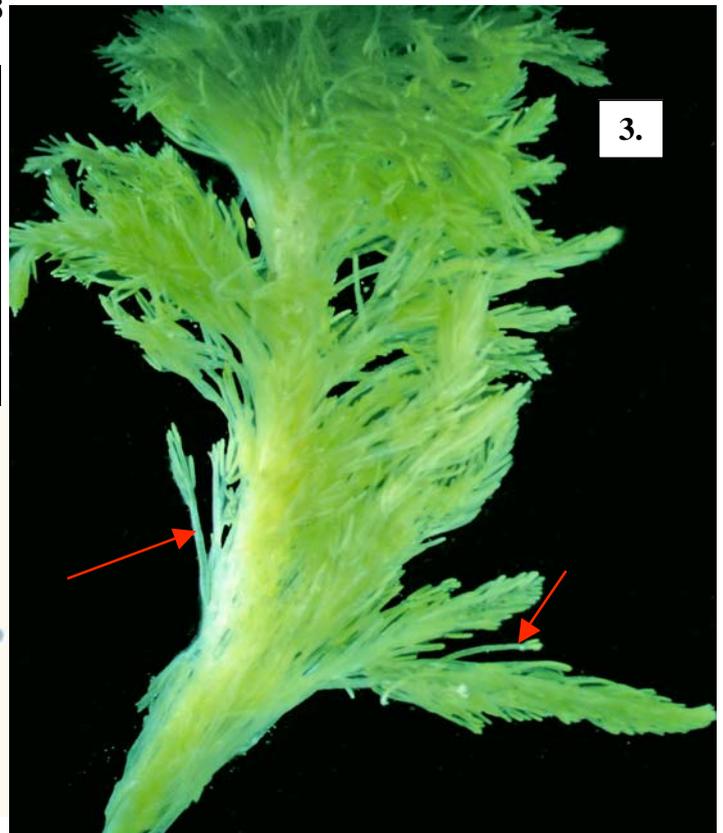
usually on rock in the lower intertidal or shallow water on rough water coasts

Similar Species

similar in size to *Bryopsis gemellipara*, but that species has a 2-sided branching pattern

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 280-283

Details of Anatomy



Preserved (bleached) and coloured specimens of *Bryopsis vestita* (A39538) from Cape Northumberland, S. Australia.

1. dense branching at the tip of a stalk (axis).
2. detail of radial pattern of ultimate branches (ramuli) on a side branch
3. characteristic masses of ramuli densely wrapping the branches except for some lower side branches (arrowed) which are denuded at their bases.

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

§ name used in Edgar, G. *Australian Marine Life, 2nd Ed.* (2008)

“Algae Revealed” R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, July 2005

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Two magnifications of *Bryopsis vestita* J. Agardh (A39538) from Cape Northumberland, S. Australia, showing the dense ultimate branches (ramuli) forming terminal tufts that give the plant a feathery appearance

* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
‡ name used in Edgar, G. *Australian Marine Life, 2nd Ed.* (2008)
“Algae Revealed” R N Baldock, S Australian State Herbarium, July 2005