

Techniques needed and shape



Classification

Division: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Delesserioideae
Group: *Caloglossa*

***Descriptive name**

Mangrove or Mat Cellophane Plant (referring to its common locality & texture)

Features



- 1. red-brown colour
- 2. plants form loose **tangled mats** of small, flat, narrow blades
- 3. often found on **mangroves**
- 3. main blades have wavy edges, **pinched repeatedly** into narrow parts (nodes)
- 4. tips often look like forceps

Variations

side-blades arise from the **edges** of main blades near the tips of plants, but from the mid-rib further down the plant

Special requirements



- 1. view the dome-shaped apical cells under the microscope
- 2. view the central veins & regular rows of cells

Usual Habitat

attached to mangrove “snorkels” (pneumatophores) & jetty piles in warm, sheltered localities in tropical and temperate Australia

Similar Species

Caloglossa ogasawaraensis from Japan has narrower blades (0.1-0.3mm wide) and has been found only in the Barker Inlet & Garden I., S. Australia.

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIID , page 23-25

Details of Anatomy



Above:

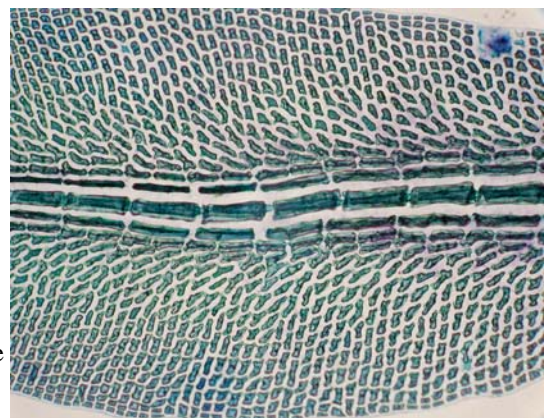
Plant with

- 1. incurved tips and flat blades constricted at nodes (arrowed)
- 2. prominent central veins

17128



Above: Tip of a blade showing dome-shaped apical cells (a) that produce central filaments and flanking cells (pericentral cells) that become veins 17128



Right:

Detail of the regular rows of cells arising from the central vein in the blade

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* Descriptive names are inventions to aid identification, and are not commonly used
Prepared March 2003; additions August 2007



Caloglossa leprieurii (Montagne) Martens, A23961, from American River, Kangaroo I., S. Australia