

**Techniques needed and shape**



**MACRO PLANT**



mat plant



bladders

**Classification**  
**Previous Name:**

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Caulerpales; Family: Caulerpaceae  
*Caulerpa racemosa* var. *laetevirens* (Montagne) Weber van Bosse.  
**f. cylindracea** (Sonder) Weber van Bosse.  
(Verlaque found sufficient genetic and distributional differences to raise the form *cylindracea* to varietal level.)

**\*Descriptive name**  
**Features**

sea-grapes (see the website “Algae Base”); §tropical caulerpa  
1. plants green, rapidly forming **tangled mats** in shallow water and amongst seagrass meadows.  
2. upright branches arise from a runner (stolon). **Club-shaped**, bladder-like branches (ramuli) arise upwardly in a radial or irregular pattern from the upright branches (axes)  
3. the plant is capable of rapid propagation from fragments even when partly covered by sediment

**Occurrences**

a sub-tropical species from W Australia, originally found only as far east as Albany. First recorded in S. Australia in 2002, colonising a settlement sheet in the Port Adelaide River, now well established in the Port River estuary and along the metropolitan Adelaide coast as far as O’Sullivan Beach as at 2005.

**Usual Habitat**  
**Similar Species**

found un-attached at the edge of the tide and to 4m deep in sand and mud.  
*Caulerpa cactoides*, but in that species bladder-like ramuli are **larger** (10-20mm long), arise **oppositely** from expanded shoulders of jointed, swollen, upright branches and plants are much coarser

**Description in the Benthic Flora** Pt I, pages 270-271, 273 (as *C. racemosa* var. *laetevirens* f. *cylindracea*)

**Details of Anatomy**



\* 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 July 2005

3.



4.



specimens of *Caulerpa racemosa* (Forsskal) J Agardh var. *cylindracea* (Sonder) Verlaque, Huisman & Boudouresque

3. from O'Sullivan Beach, S. Australia (A70536)

4. from the Port River, the first specimen (A69251) documented in S. Australia in 2002, shown attached to a settlement sheet

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