

Techniques needed

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Ulvales; Family: Ulvaceae

*Descriptive name

green ribbon plant; locally known in S Australia as “green guts”

Features

plants medium to dark green, 20-150mm tall, *unbranched*, blades *narrow*, *tubular* or flat, *hollow*

Variations

plants of brackish waters sometimes *branched*

Special requirements



view branches microscopically to see

1. *hollow* construction if only at the bases of blades
2. upper parts of blades with *scattered, rounded* cells
3. *one* occasionally two bright spots (pyrenoids) in chloroplasts

Occurrences

possibly cosmopolitan

Usual Habitat

intertidal pools to shallow water

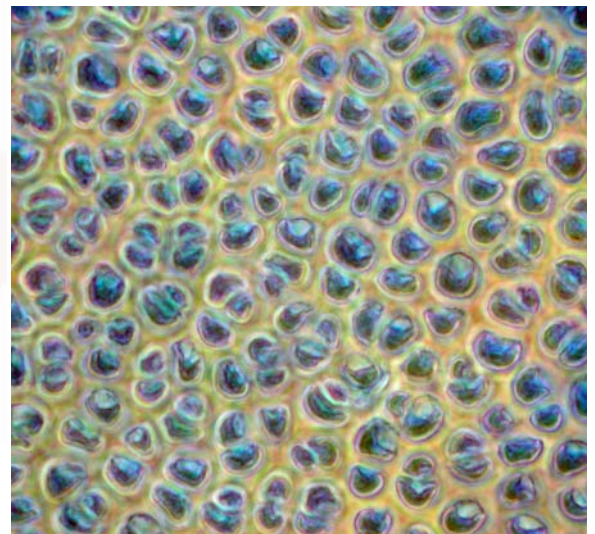
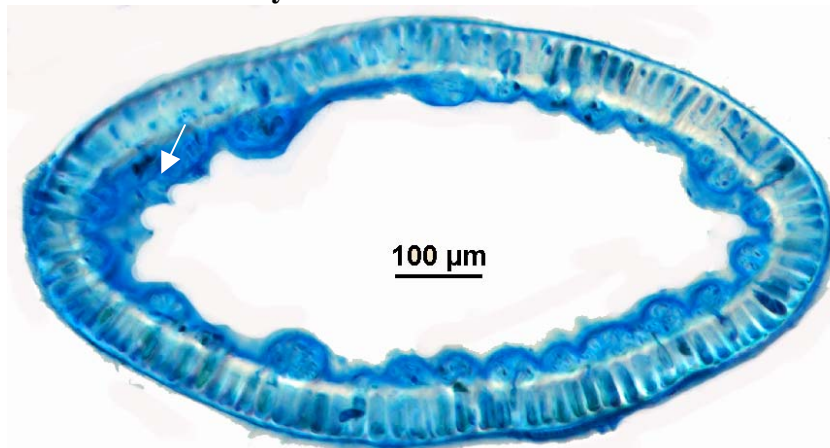
Similar Species



Enteromorpha compressa, but in that species cells are in lines and plants are branched at the base. Womersley considers most S Australian plants can be assigned to *E. compressa*

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 160-161

Details of Anatomy



Enteromorpha intestinalis (A52030) stained blue and viewed microscopically

- 1, 2. cross section (slide 6609) at different magnifications, showing the hollow blade construction, elongate cells containing chloroplasts with single pyrenoids
3. surface view of the *un-ordered* pattern of *rounded* cells, each with a single chloroplast (slide 6608)

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



Two contrasting examples of *Enteromorpha intestinalis* (Linnaeus) Link

4. from Taroona Tasmania (A10136), showing dark green, narrow, sausage-shaped blades
5. from Pt Arthur Tasmania (A57607), with paler green plants, broadening well above their narrow bases

