



MACRO  
PLANT

foliose

Techniques needed and plant shape

Classification

Phylum: Chlorophyta; Order: Ulvales; Family: Ulvaceae

\*Descriptive name

bunched sea lettuce; §southern sea lettuce

Features



plants light green above, darker below, 40-200mm tall, of **several** sheet-like blades branched near the plant **base**, blades only **slightly** longer than broad, edges **without** microscopic teeth, plant base with **thick** mass of rhizoids

Special requirements



view a cross section of a blade microscopically to see 2 sheets of cells and cells longer than broad

Occurrences

Usual Habitat

throughout southern Australia

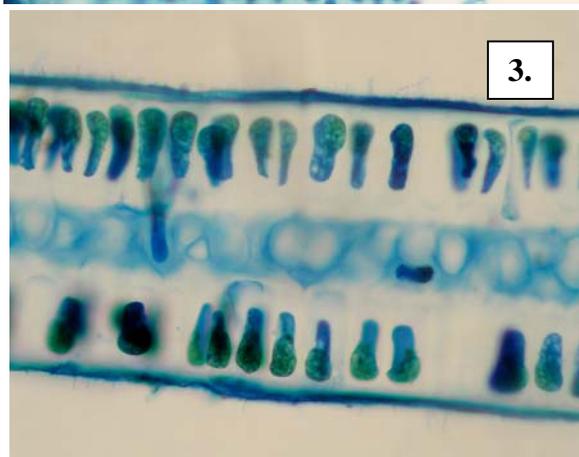
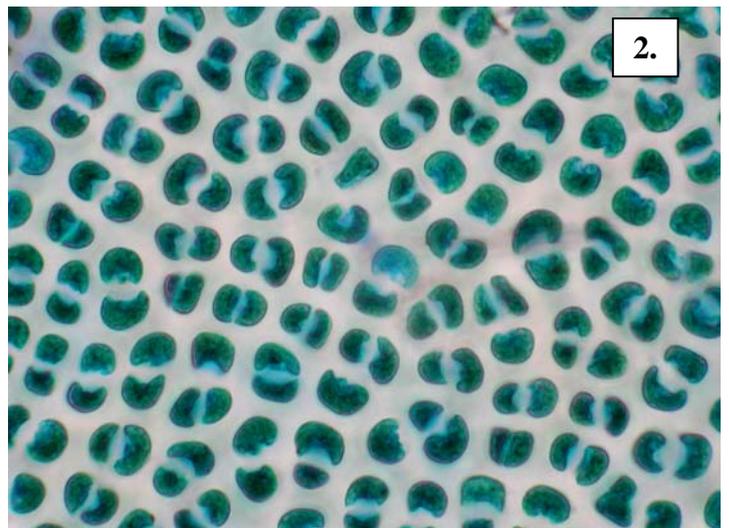
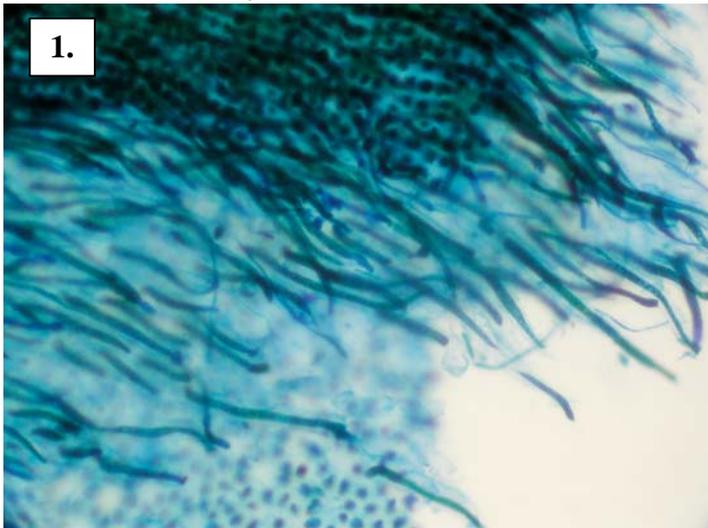
usually on moderately **rough coasts** in the lower intertidal and upper sub tidal

Similar Species

*Ulva lactuca* but that species is rarer, found in calmer waters and has thinner blades with fewer rhizoids. *U. rigida* is similar but has generally fewer branches, and the margins are minutely toothed.

Description in the Benthic Flora Part I, pages 141-3, 145

Details of Anatomy



*Ulva australis* stained blue and viewed microscopically

1. torn base of a frond viewed from above, showing the thick central mass of rhizoids (slide 7498)
2. surface view of cells mainly **randomly** arranged (slide 7498)
- 3, 4. cross sections showing cells longer than broad (L/B ~ 1½) (slide 6582)

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, October 2003, additions October 2009



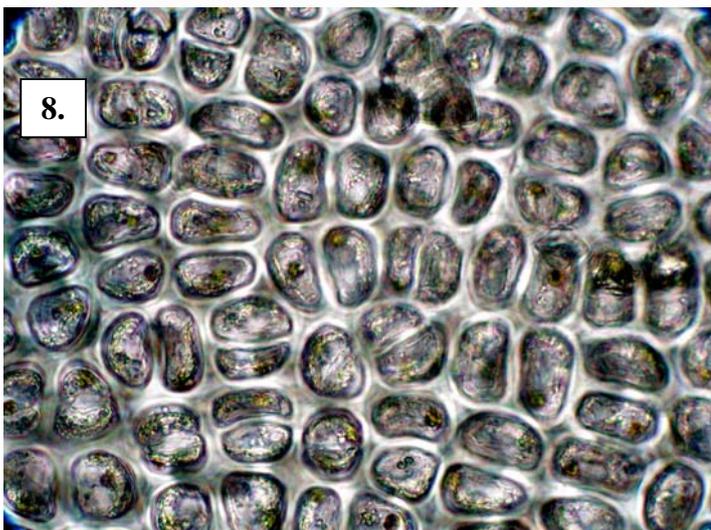
5.



6.



7.



8.



9.

5-7. specimens of *Ulva australis* Areschoug from S Australia (#5, A 71268; #6 A55448, 100mm deep on pontoon, Port; A53120, 8m deep between Granite I., and Wright I., Victor Harbor  
 8, 9. two microscope views of unstained preparations (A70443) (#8, surface view of cells, #9cross section of a blade)

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