Apoglossum spathulatum
(Sonder) Womersley & Shepley

45.880



Techniques needed and shape

Classification Division: Rhodophyta; Family: Delesseriaceae; Tribe: Delesserioideae

***Descriptive name** Veined filmy-plant (referring to the transparent blades with prominent mid-ribs)

Features plants red, 40-140mm tall, of long, ***transparent*** flat blades,10-50mm long, 2-7mm wide, with wavy edges and ***prominent*** central veins; ***small bladelets*** arise from the central veins on both sides of the blades

Variations plants vary in size; blades are wider in plants from deeper water & from Tasmania

Special requirements

view blades microscopically to find very small, inverted-conical apical cells, central veins each cell of which has 4 flanking (pericentral) two opposite ones generating rows of cells spreading outwards producing blades a single cell thick (monostromatic); veins thickened in older parts with rhizoids

Occurrences widespread in southern Australia and from Indonesia and India

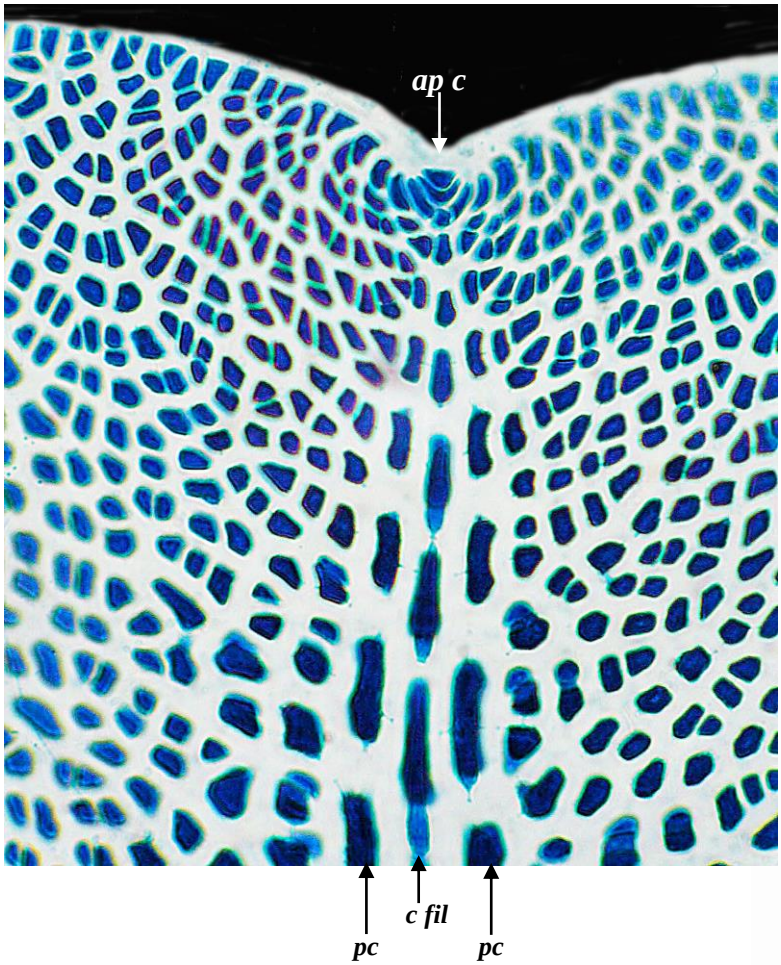
Usual Habitat on rock, in shaded pools to 27m deep

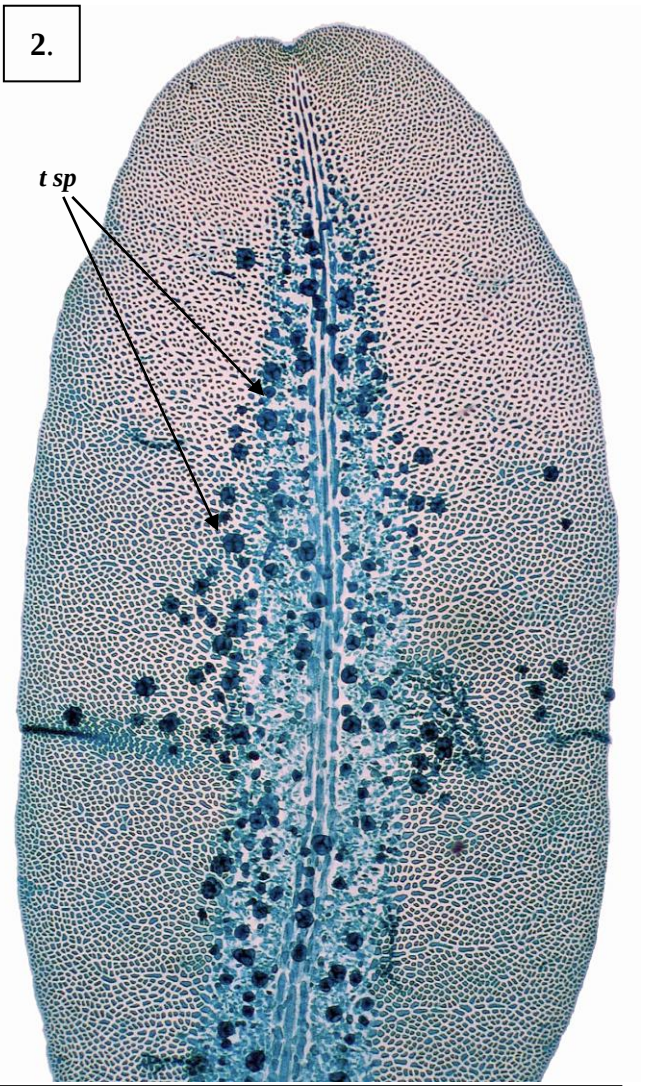
Similar Species *Hypoglossum* spp and *Heterodoxia* also have filmy blades with mid-line veins, but blade edges have minute teeth in those genera

Description in the Benthic Flora Part IIID , page 37-40

Details of Anatomy

1. **2.**



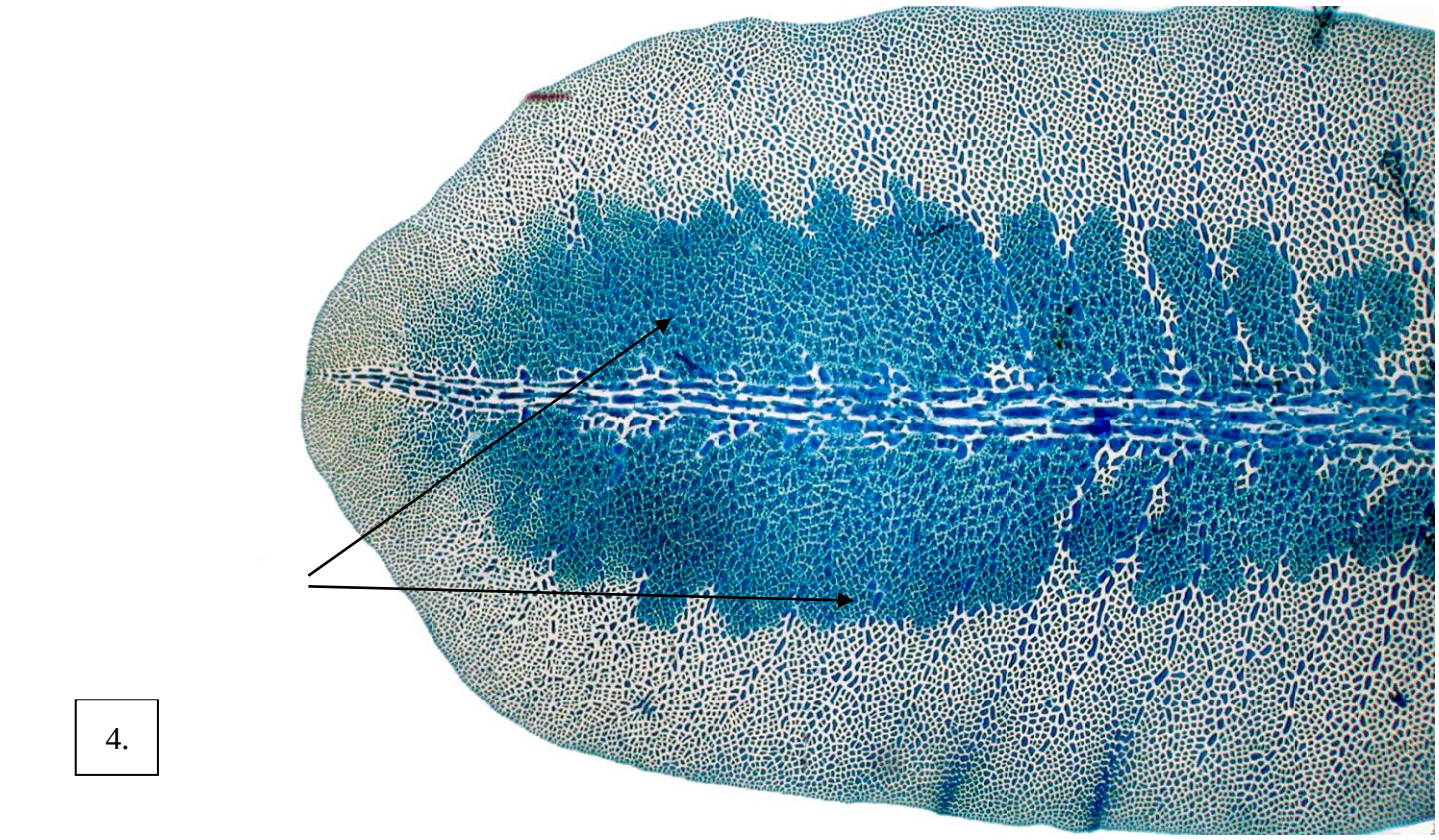


Apoglossum spathulatum: blade surfaces viewed microscopically (slide 0877)

1. blade tip: inverted-conical apical cell (***ap c***), central thread (***c fil***) partly obscured by one of the 4 flanking cells (pericentral cells, ***pc***) (3 in surface view at any one time)
2. bladelet from the mid-rib of a blade: tetrasporangia (***t sp***) concentrated along the mid-rib

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

"Algae revealed", R N Baldock, State Herbarium S Australia, March 2003; additions August 2007; edited May 2014



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3. from shallow water, Georgetown, Tamar Estuary, Tasmania (A10279d)
4. microscope view of a bladelet from the mid-rib of a male plant: mid-line male spermatangial masses (arrowed) (slide 0877)

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