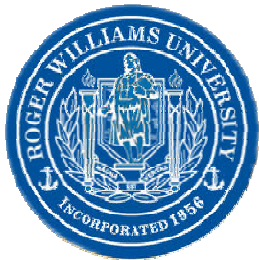




# *Introduction to the Diversity of Marine Green Algae (in Panama)*

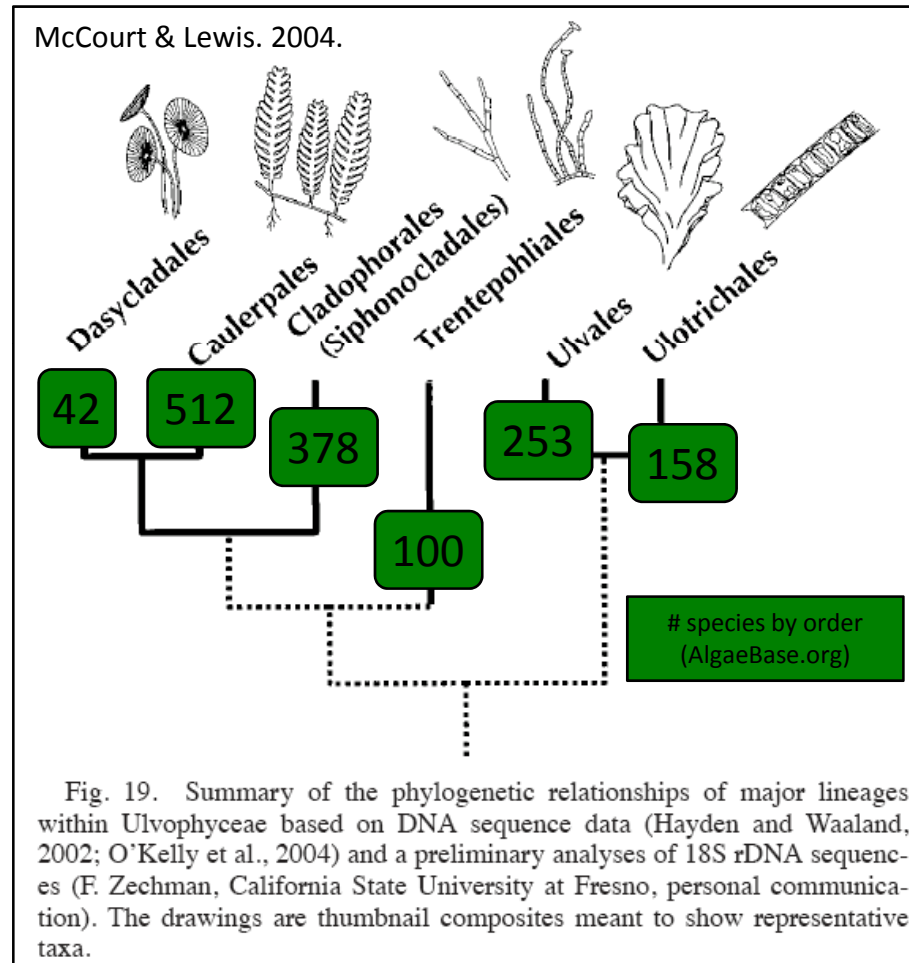


Brian Wysor, Ph.D.  
Roger Williams University



# Class Ulvophyceae

- Generally, 5 (or 6) orders are distinguished for marine species
  - flagellar apparatus
  - zoosporangial & gametangial structures
  - life history
- Orders are generally supported by molecular analysis, but relationships among orders are largely uncertain
- Approximately 1443 spp. (AlgaeBase.org)



- Unicells, unbranched & branched filaments, and parenchymatous blades
- GATGORE (Green Algae That Grow On Rocks Everywhere)
- Uni- and multi-nucleate
- Het. or iso. AoG
- Marine & freshwater

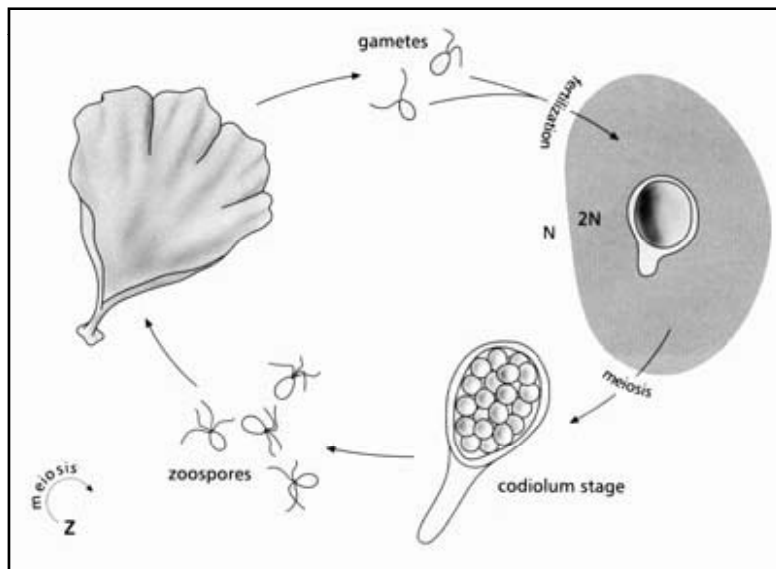
## ORDER ULOTRICHALES

Panamanian Richness (Wysor & Kooistra 2003): 0 spp.

50  $\mu$ m

# Order Ulotrichales

- Most members exhibit heteromorphic alternation of generations type life history
  - Some with unicellular *Codiolum*-stage sporophyte



- Broad structural diversity

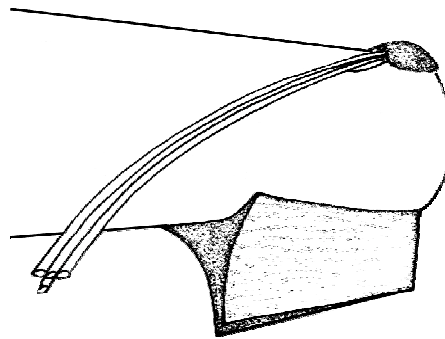




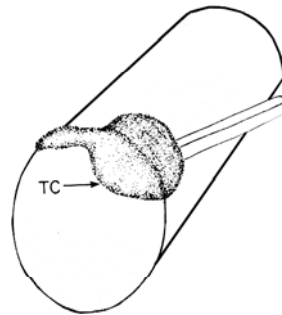
# Ulotrichalean Flagellar Apparatus

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- Wedge-shaped proximal sheath



- Incomplete terminal cap



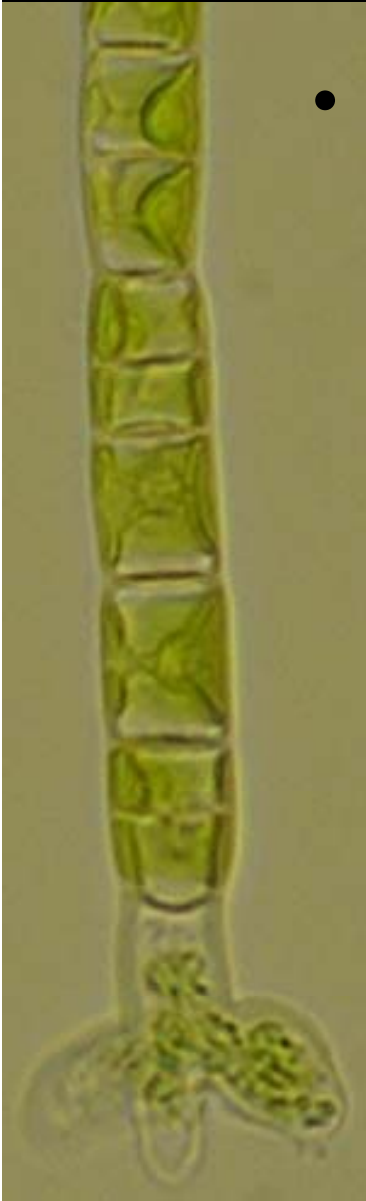
# Order Ulotrichales

---

- Poorly represented in tropics in general
  - No Panamanian records
  - Probably represented by:
    - microfilamentous (*Pseudendoclonium*),
    - unicellular (*Halochlorococcum*),
    - And/or freshwater representatives (*Ulothrix*)
  - Cultivation of species from varied substrata will likely lead to new records



# Ulotrichalean Genera



- *Ulothrix*

- Unbranched filaments with cup-shaped plastids
- Probably more common in FW
- Pyrenoids with traversing thylakoids may define certain groups

I	II	III	IV	V		
<i>U. crenulata</i> <i>U. verrucosa</i>	<i>U. speciosa</i> <i>U. palusalsa</i>	<i>U. zonata</i>	<i>U. mucosa</i>	<i>U. albicans</i> <i>U. tenuissima</i> <i>U. subflaccida</i> <i>U. implexa</i> <i>U. flacca</i>	<i>U. subtilis</i> <i>U. tenerrima</i>	

- Molecular investigations (Wysor & O’Kelly unpublished) reveal polyphyly for the genus
  - *U. tenerrima* (type species) and *U. zonata* are not monophyletic





# *Gayralia oxysperma*

- *Gayralia oxysperma* (aka *Monostroma oxyspermum*)
  - Monostromatic blade
  - Ontogeny similar to *Ulvaria* (Ulvales)
    - Filament - tube/sac - blade
  - But sexual life history unknown
    - Bi-flagellate gametes return monostromatic blade
  - (unpublished) molecular phylogenies place genus in Ulotrichales (not Ulvales as reported by Littler & Littler 2000)
  - Single species with polar - tropical distributions suggestive of cryptic diversity
  - Look for it near freshwater outflows

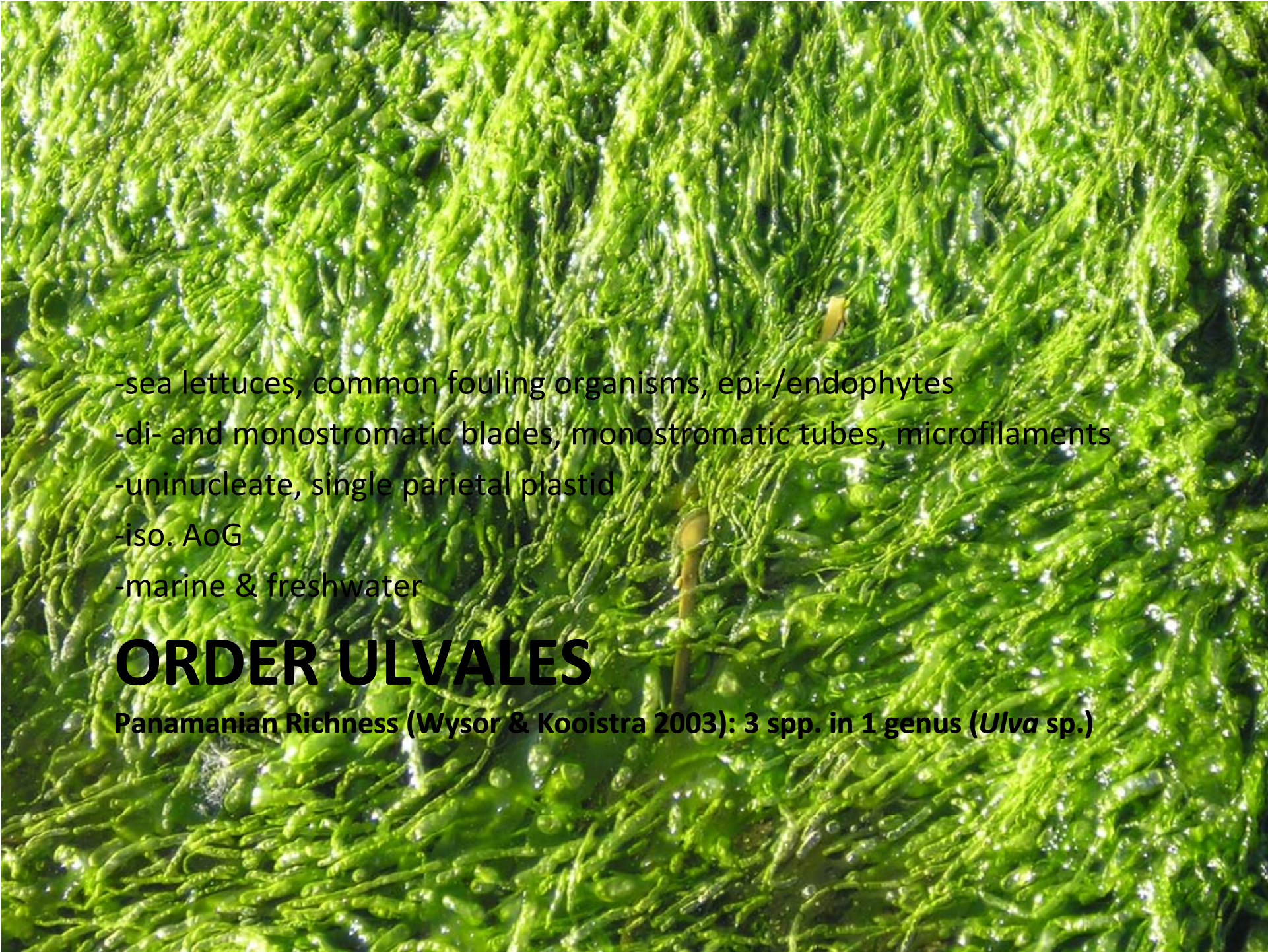


# Other Ulotrichalean Genera

- *Halochlorococcum*
  - Unicellular, endophytic
    - LRGTs: Little Round Green Things
    - GATGORE: Green Algae That Grow on Rocks Everywhere
- *Gomontia*
  - microfilamentous, shell-boring





- 
- sea lettuces, common fouling organisms, epi-/endophytes
  - di- and monostromatic blades, monostromatic tubes, microfilaments
  - uninucleate, single parietal plastid
  - iso. AoG
  - marine & freshwater

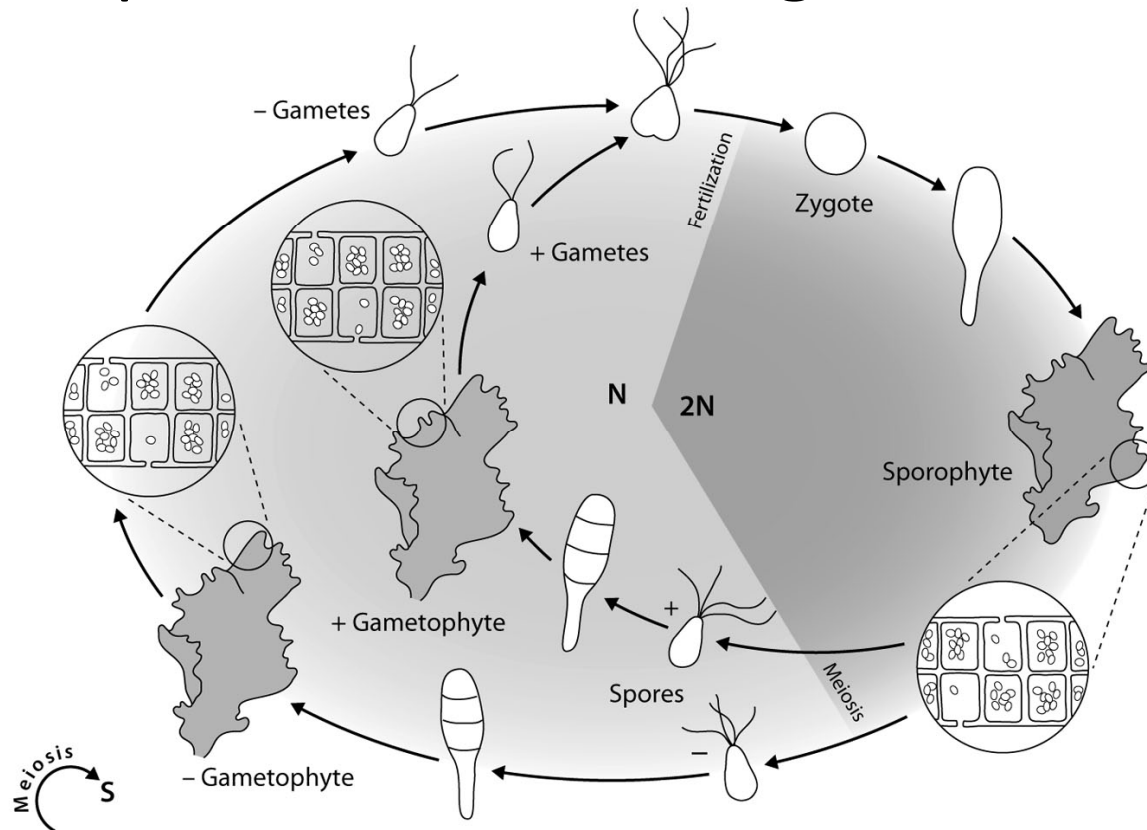
## **ORDER ULVALES**

**Panamanian Richness (Wysor & Kooistra 2003): 3 spp. in 1 genus (*Ulva* sp.)**



# Order Ulvales

- Isomorphic alternation of generations



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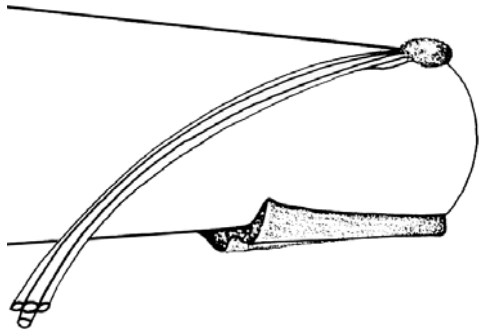
Pan-American Advanced Studies Institute  
Advanced Methods in Tropical Phycology



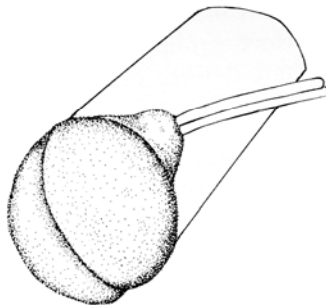
# Order Ulvales

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- Bi-lobed proximal sheath



- Complete, bi-lobed terminal cap



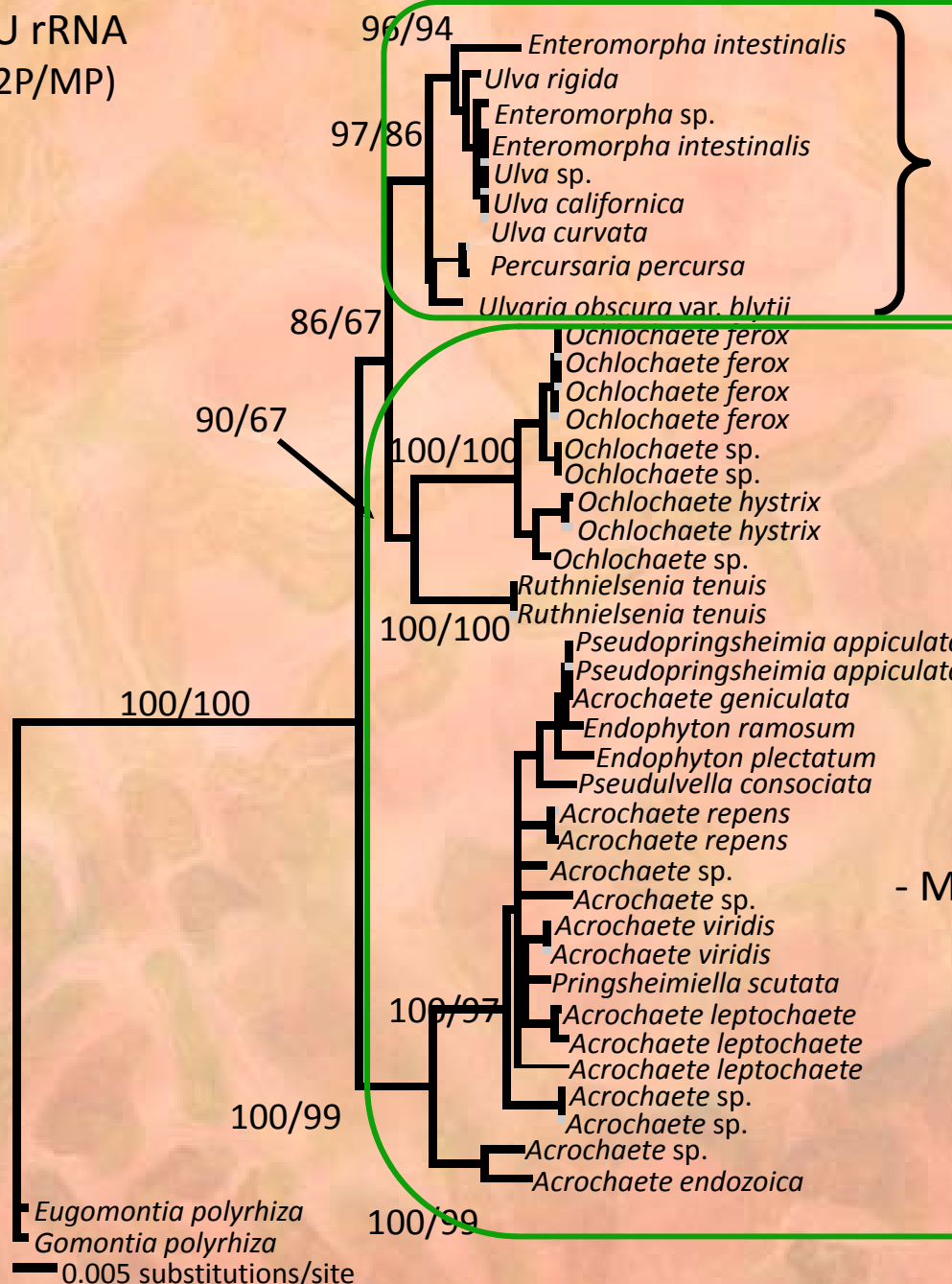


# Order Ulvales

- Common fouling organisms on man-made substrata
  - Littler & Littler (1980) showed that species are r-selected
    - High palatability
    - Minimal investment in chemical defenses
    - Rapid growth rates
  - Can form “green tides,” which appear to be more common in temperate ecosystems



SSU rRNA  
(K2P/MP)



### Sea Lettuces

- bi-stromatic
- monostromatic tubes
- fouling organisms



### Microfilaments

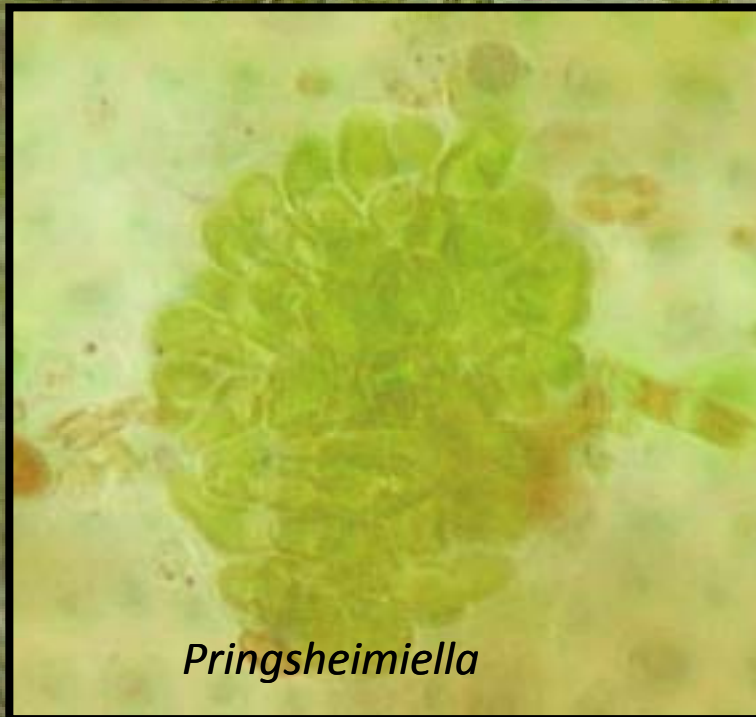
- Mono/Multi-stratose discs
- Endo- & Epiphytes



# Ulvellaceae Schmidle 1899

Diagnosis *sensu* O'Kelly (1983) & O'Kelly & Floyd (1983)

- Microfilamentous ☐ pseudoparenchymatous
- Endo- or epiphytic (rarely free-living)



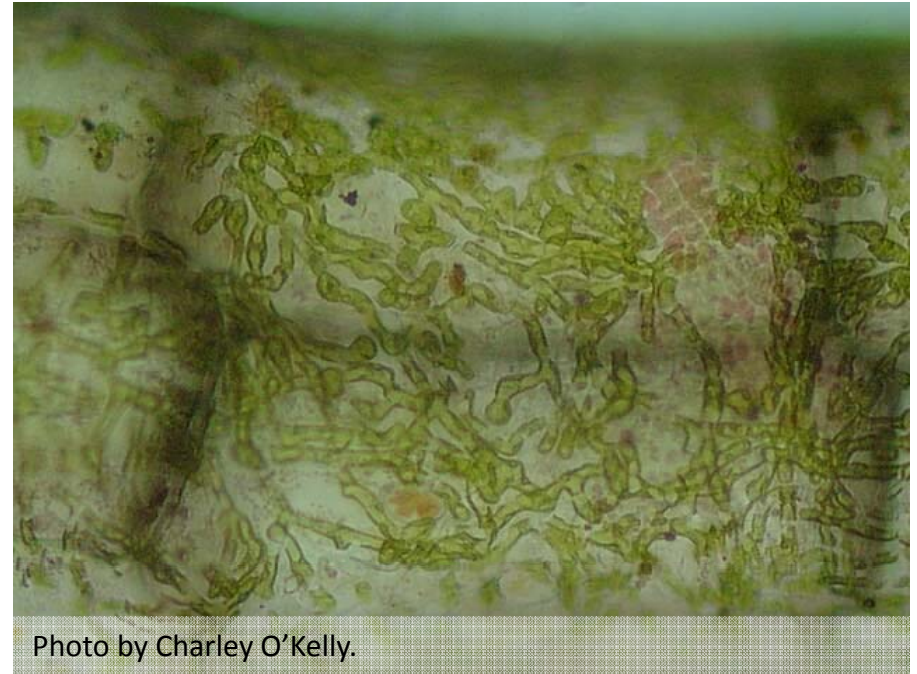
*Acrochaete*

# Ulvelleae

# Acrochaeteae



- Radially arranged, pseudoparenchymatous thallus
- Bifurcate marginal cells
- Radial germination

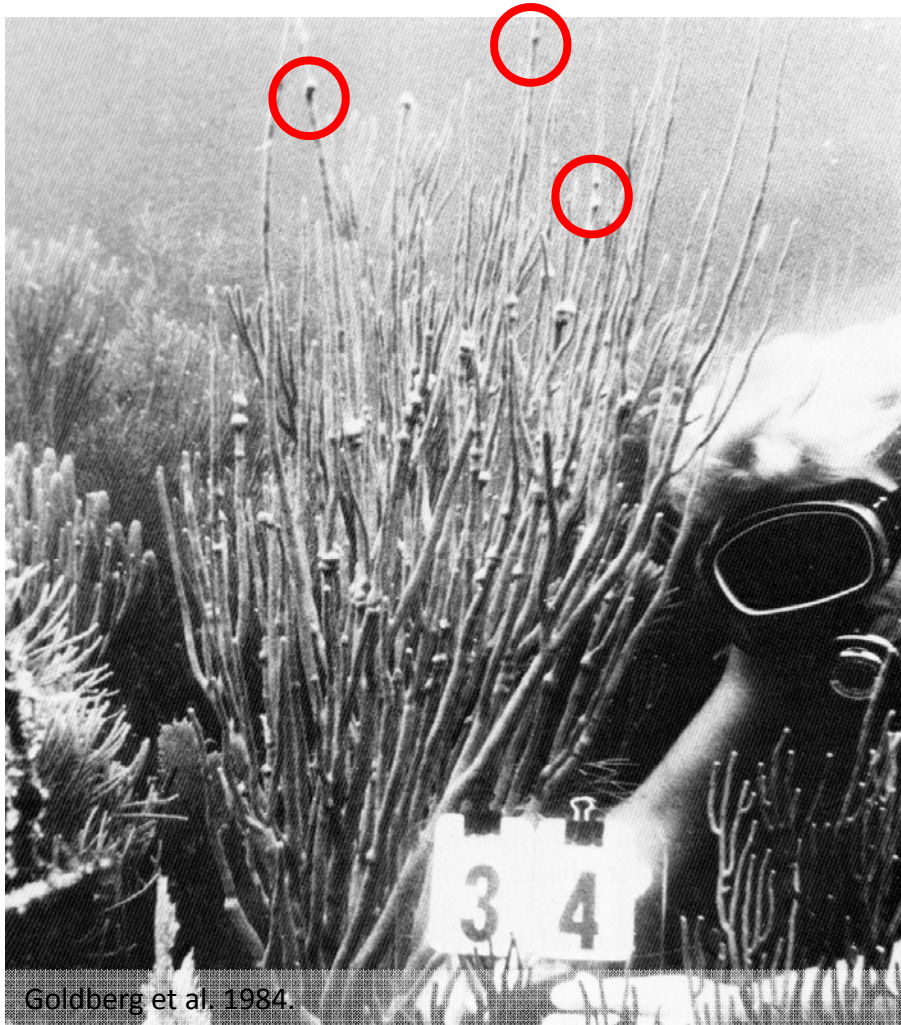


- Filamentous or pseudoparenchymatous thallus
- No bifurcate marginal cells
- Uni- or bi-polar germination – never radial





# Pathogenic Microfilamentous Algae



Goldberg et al. 1984.

- *Acrochaete endozoica* is pathogenic in the gorgonian coral, *Pseudoplexaura* spp., which forms nodules in response to algal infection (Goldberg et al. 1984).
- The sister species to *A. endozoica* is an endophyte of *Polysiphonia* (Wysor & O'Kelly unpublished),
- Thus it is conceivable that *A. endozoica* or related species with similar pathogenic effects may occur among algal turfs
- The increased incidence of disease among corals (Barber et al. 2001, McClanahan 2002; Voss & Richardson 2006) may make them more susceptible to algal infection than in the past?

# Sea Lettuces = *Ulva* (even tubular spp.)

*Eur. J. Phycol.* (August 2003), 38: 277–294.

## Linnaeus was right all along: *Ulva* and *Enteromorpha* distinct genera

HILLARY S. HAYDEN<sup>1</sup>, JAANIKA BLOMSTER<sup>2\*</sup>, CHRISTINE A. PAUL C. SILVA<sup>3</sup>, MICHAEL J. STANHOPE<sup>2#</sup> AND J. ROBERT W

<sup>1</sup>Department of Botany, Box 355325, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington 98195-5325, U

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(Received 25 June 2002; accepted 16 May 2003)

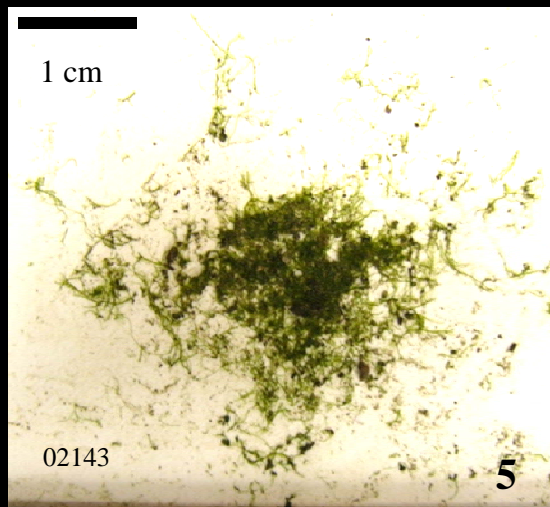
*Ulva*, one of the first Linnaean genera, was later circumscribed to consist of green seaweeds with *Enteromorpha* Link was established for tubular forms. Although several lines of evidence suggest constructs are artificial, *Ulva* and *Enteromorpha* have been maintained as separate genera. Our air phylogenetic relationships among taxa currently attributed to *Ulva*, *Enteromorpha*, *Umbraulva* Bae monotypic genus *Chloropelta* C.E. Tanner, and to make any nomenclatural changes justified by o nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer DNA (ITS nrDNA) (29 ingroup taxa including the *Enteromorpha*), the chloroplast-encoded *rbcL* gene (for a subset of taxa) and a combined data set had a strongly supported clade consisting of all *Ulva*, *Enteromorpha* and *Chloropelta* species, but were not monophyletic. The recent removal of *Umbraulva olivascens* (P.J.L. Dangeard) Bae et I.K supported, although the relationship of the segregate genus *Umbraulva* to *Ulvaria* requires further results, combined with earlier molecular and culture data, provide strong evidence that *Ulva*, *Ente* are not distinct evolutionary entities and should not be recognized as separate genera. A comparis species revealed few synapomorphies. Because *Ulva* is the oldest name, *Enteromorpha* and *Chlorop* synonymy with *Ulva*, and new combinations are made where necessary.

H. S. Hayden et al.

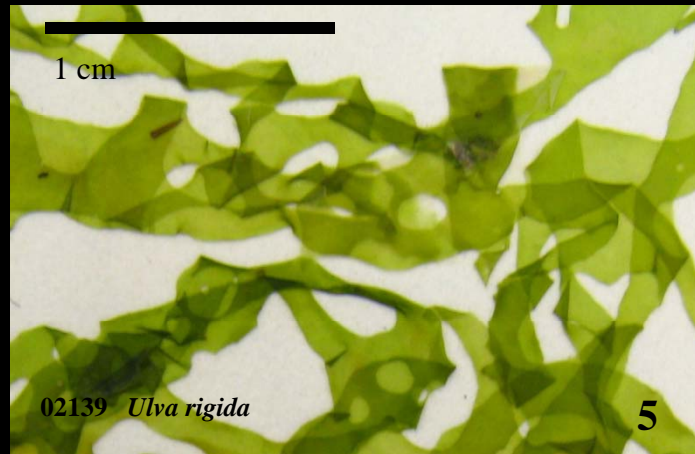
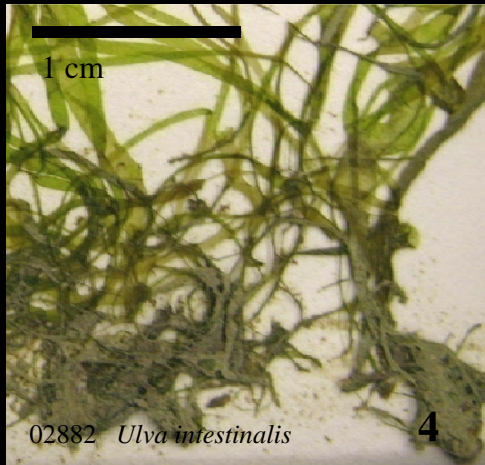
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Fig. 2. Phylogram of sampled taxa based on ML analysis of ITS nrDNA sequences ( $-\ln L = 2424.316$ ). Bootstrap percentages (1000 replicates samples) are shown above branches. Nodes with bootstrap values of less than 50% are not labelled.









# Global *rbcL* phylogeny for *Ulva*

- 249 *rbcL* sequences
  - Heesch et al. 2009, Loughnane et al. 2008, Hiraoka et al. 2004, Shimada et al. 2003, Hayden et al. 2003, Hayden & Waaland 2002
  - Wysor & Thornber, unpublished
- 1010 bp
  - 115 unique sequences
  - 96 *Ulva* sequences
  - 10 Panamanian specimens
- Neighbor joining tree
  - Kimura 2-parameter distance values

0.005 substitutions/site

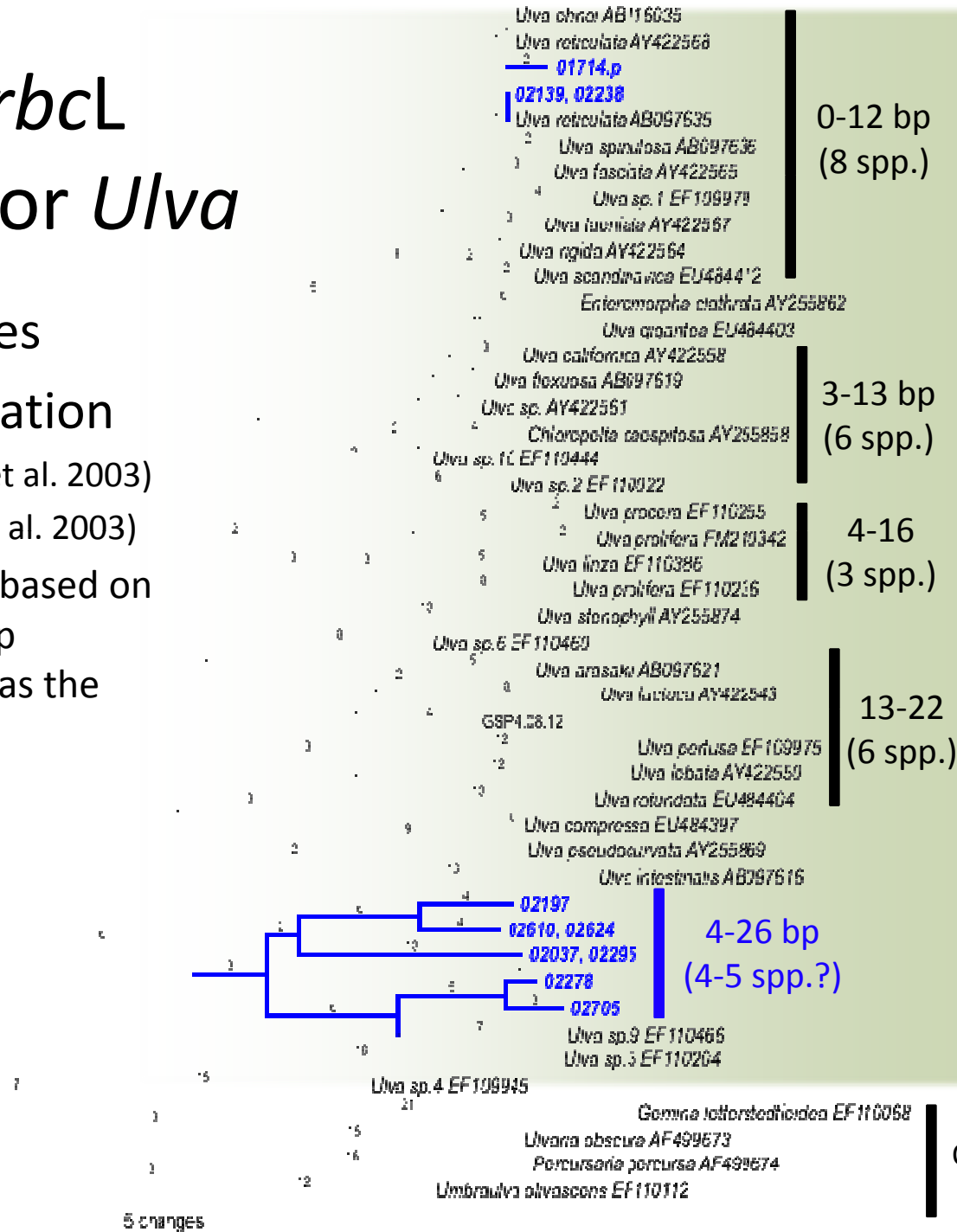


Ulvales

Class Ulvophyceae

# “Local” *rbcL* phylogeny for *Ulva*

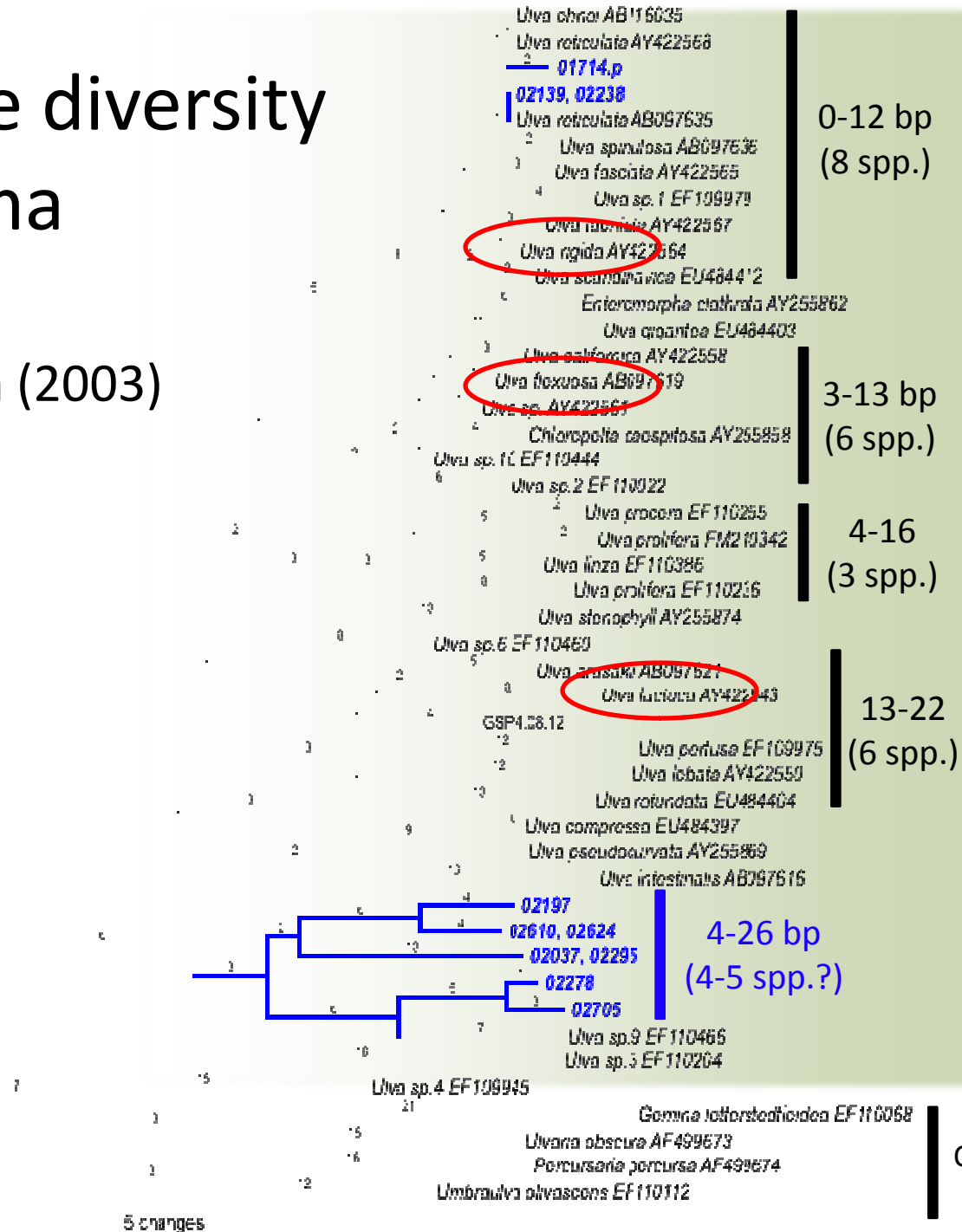
- 46 *rbcL* sequences
- Interspecific variation
  - 2-30 bp (Shimada et al. 2003)
  - 2-49 bp (Hayden et al. 2003)
- Neighbor joining tree based on absolute number of bp differences (reported as the branch length)





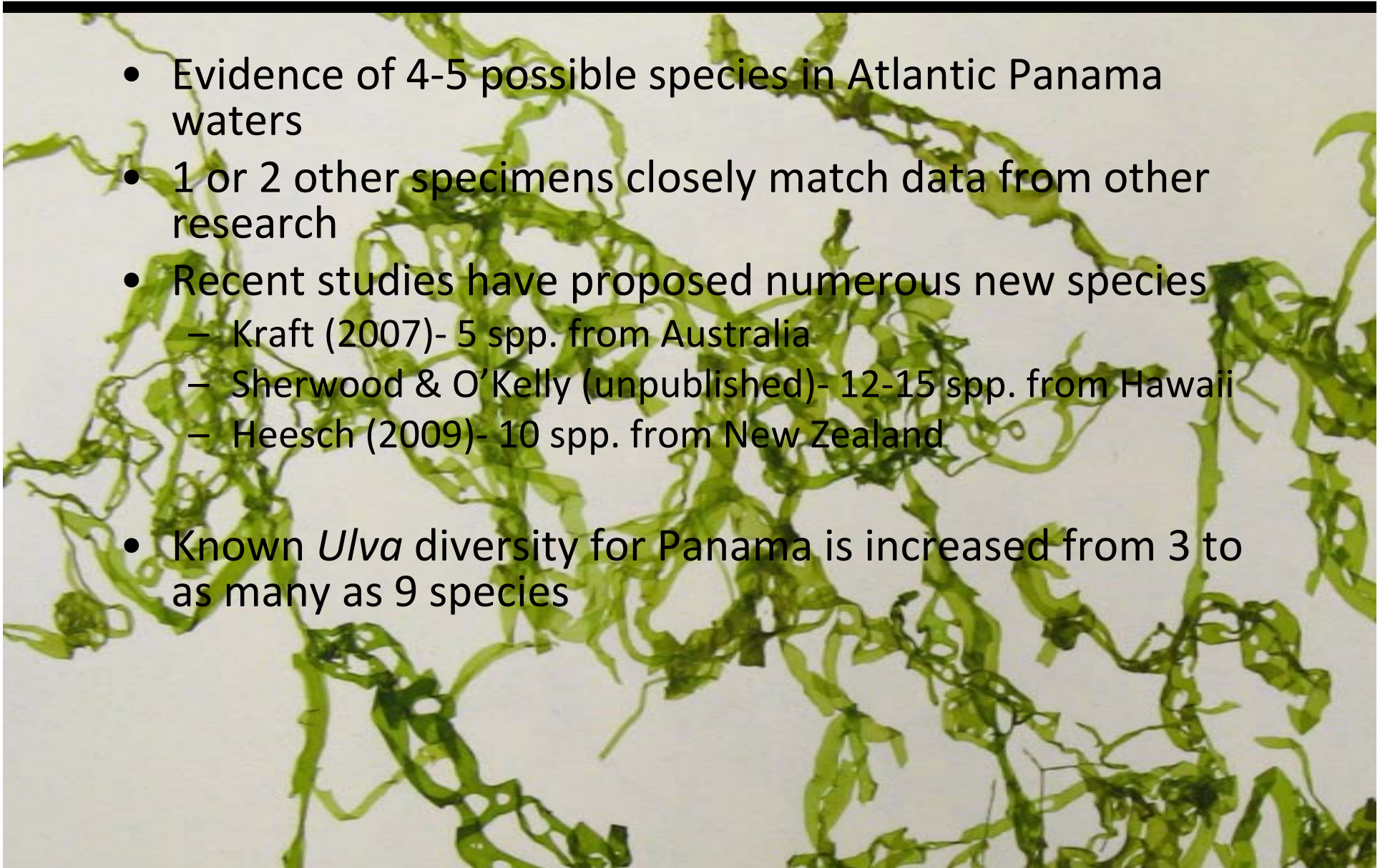
# Sea lettuce diversity in Panama

- Wysor & Kooistra (2003)
  - *Ulva rigida*
  - *Ulva flexuosa*
  - *Ulva lactuca*



# Summary of *Ulva* diversity in Panama

- Evidence of 4-5 possible species in Atlantic Panama waters
- 1 or 2 other specimens closely match data from other research
- Recent studies have proposed numerous new species
  - Kraft (2007)- 5 spp. from Australia
  - Sherwood & O'Kelly (unpublished)- 12-15 spp. from Hawaii
  - Heesch (2009)- 10 spp. from New Zealand
- Known *Ulva* diversity for Panama is increased from 3 to as many as 9 species





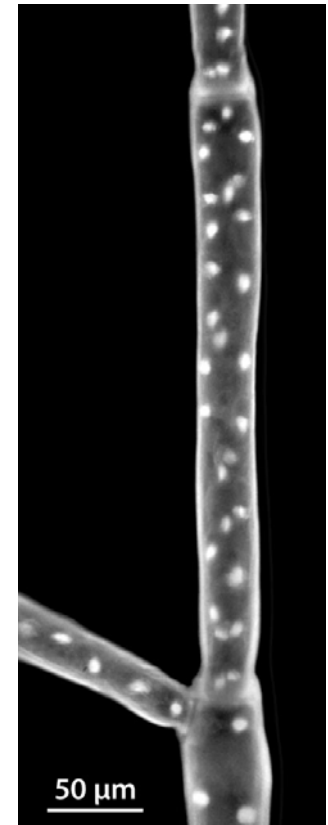
- multinucleate & multicellular
- unbranched & branched filaments, reticula, vesicles, (& unicells)
- iso. AoG
- diverse cell division modes, including segregative cell division
- reticulate chloroplasts
- marine, freshwater, (& terrestrial)

# **CLADOPHORALES/ SIPHONOCLEDALES COMPLEX**

**Panamanian Richness (Wysor & Kooistra 2003): 22 spp. in 11 genera**

# Order Cladophorales/ Siphonocladales

- Primarily marine green algae that exhibit siphonocladous condition (i.e., multinucleate & multicellular)
- Traditionally regarded as one or two orders in Class Cladophorophyceae or Ulvophyceae
- Molecular data suggests three lineages
  - Cladophorales, Siphonocladales, *Aegragropila* lineage
- Structurally diverse
  - Cladophorales s.s.
    - structurally more simple (e.g., *Cladophora*, *Chaetomorpha*, *Rhizoclonium*)
    - Tropical, temperate & cold water distribution
    - Marine, freshwater, and terrestrial
  - Siphonocladales s.s.
    - structurally more complex
    - segregative cell division by many representatives (e.g., *Struvea*, *Dictyosphaeria*)
    - Strictly marine, primarily tropical



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# Unbranched Filaments

---



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*Chaetomorpha antennina* (seaweed) (20x). Dr. John M. Huisman. 9th Place, 2005 Nikon Small world Contest.

# Branched Filaments (*Cladophora*)

---





# Reticulate Filaments (*Struvea*)

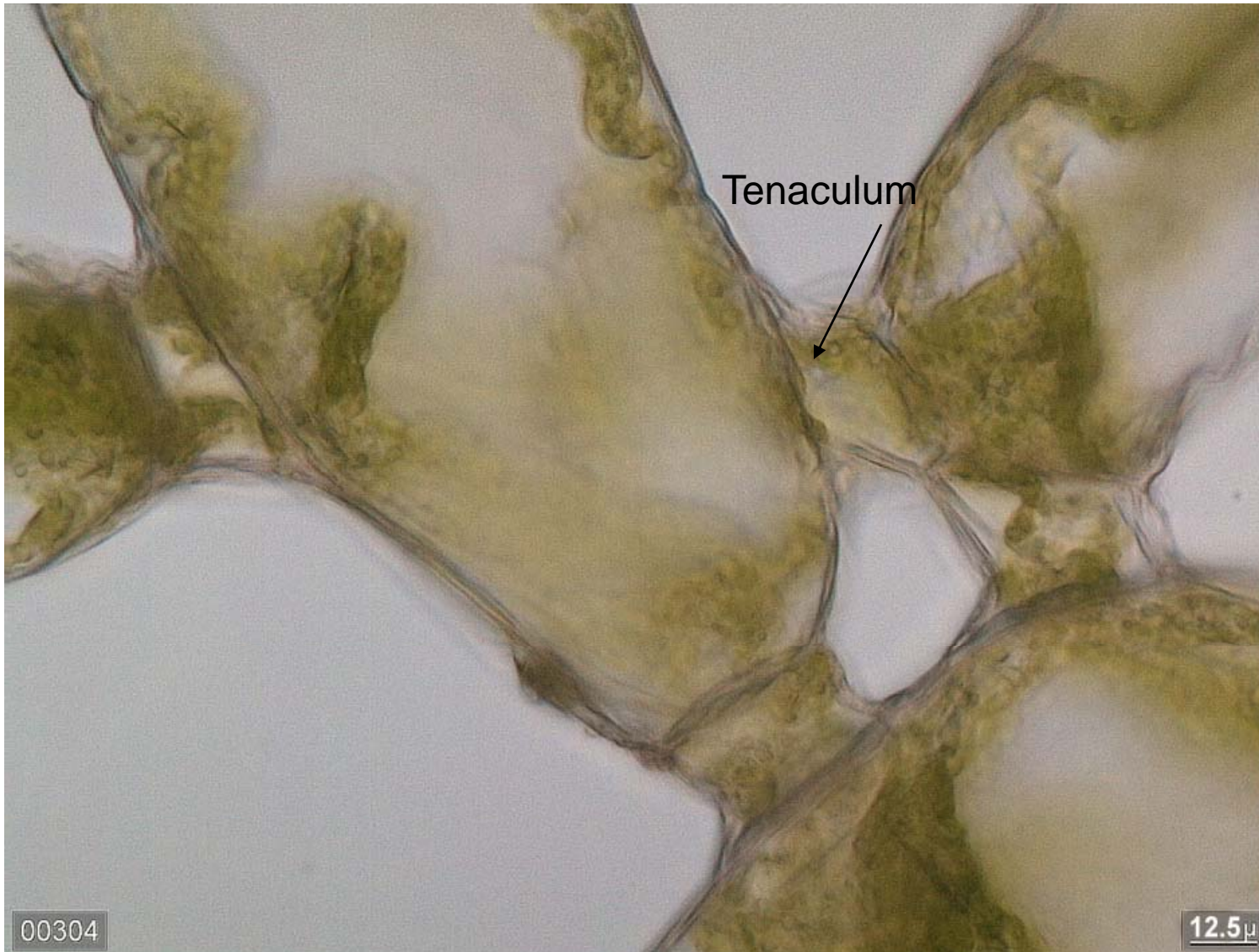
Annular constrictions





# Reticulate Filaments

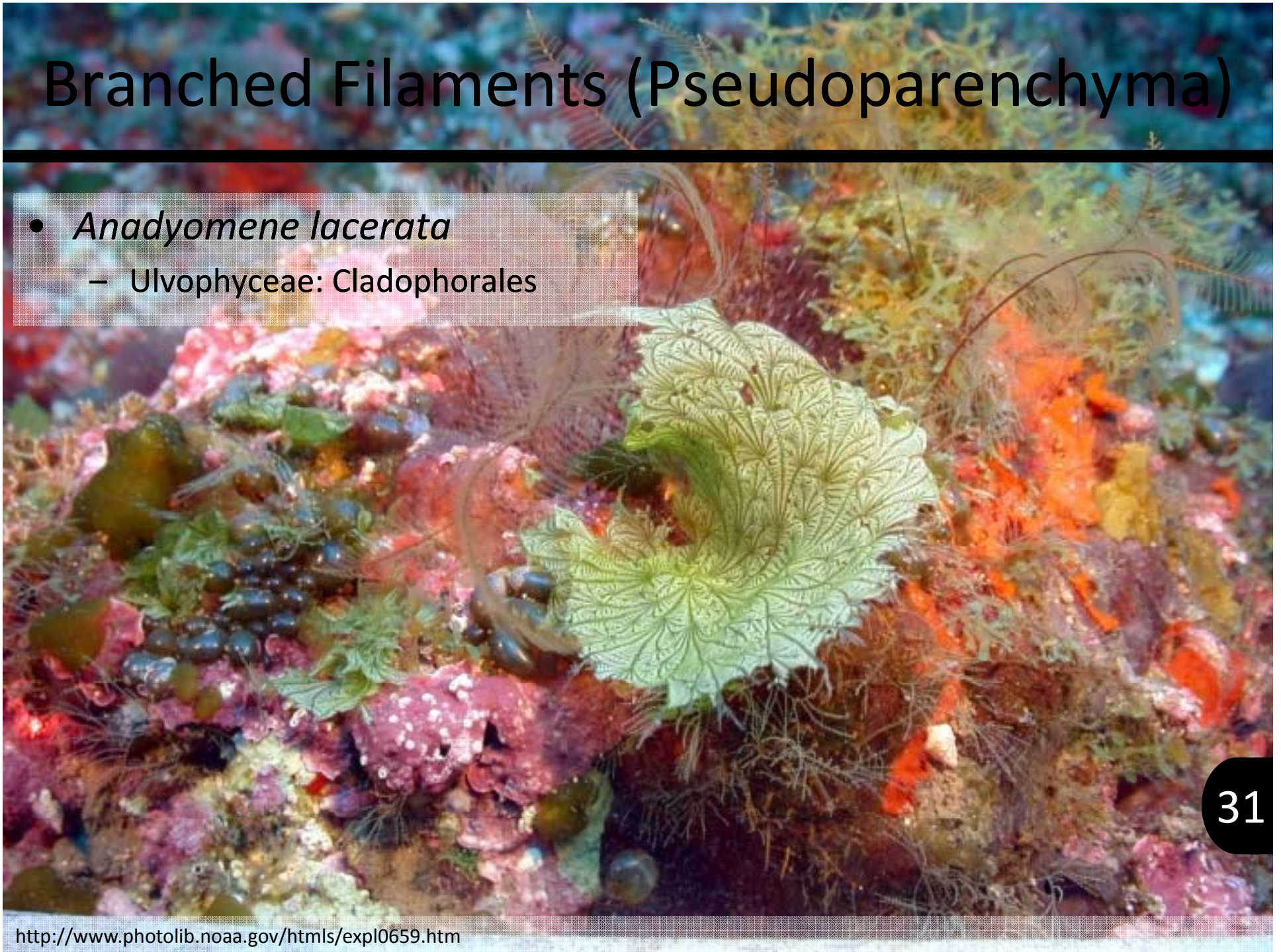
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# Branched Filaments (Pseudoparenchyma)

- *Anadyomene lacerata*
  - Ulvophyceae: Cladophorales







*Anadyomene stellata*. Galeta (STRI), Panama.



# Vesicles (*Dictosphaeria cavernosa*)





# *Dictyosphaeria ocellata*

Cuango, Colon, Panama



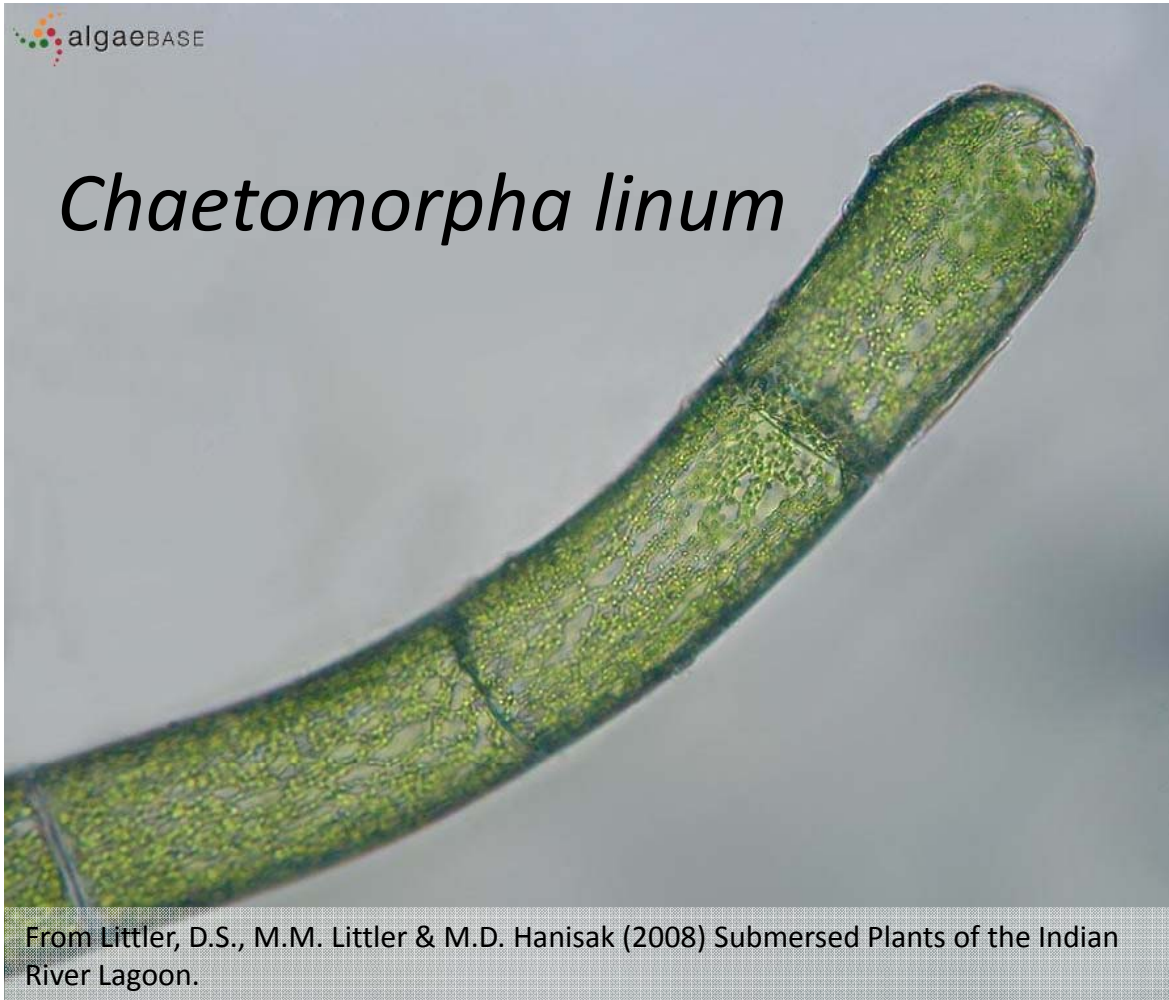


# Vescicle (*Valonia*)





# Order Cladophorales/Siphonocladales



- Chloroplasts may be dissected and reticulate
- Or a series of discoid chloroplast arrayed in a reticulum

# Order Cladophorales/Siphonocladales:

- Chloroplasts frequently surrounded by bilenticular pyrenoids

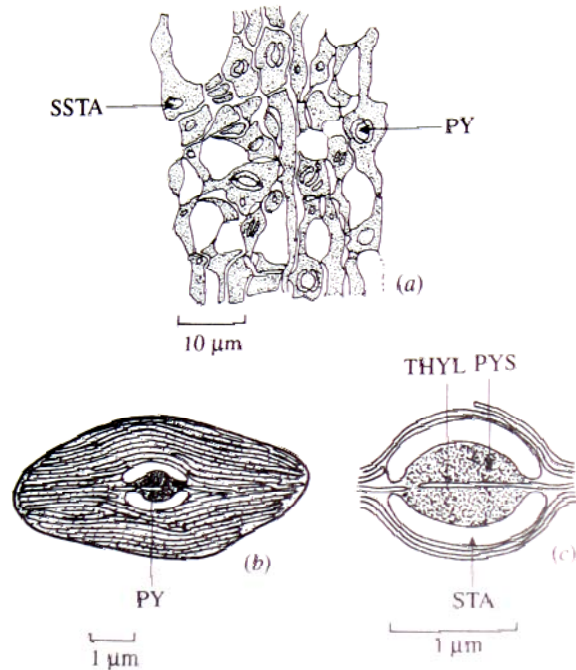


Figure 23.3. The parietal network of chloroplasts in a *Cladophora* species. (a) Surface view of the network as seen with the light microscope. (b) Cross section of an individual chloroplast, containing a bilenticular pyrenoid. Note the closely appressed thylakoids. (c) Cross section through a bilenticular pyrenoid. The pyrenoid is divided by a single thylakoid into two halves, each of which is covered by a bowl-shaped shell of starch. PY = pyrenoid; PYS = pyrenoid stroma; SSTA = stroma starch; STA = starch shell around pyrenoid; THYL = thylakoid. (a based on <sup>806</sup>, b, c on <sup>750</sup>.)



# Order Cladophorales/ Siphonocladales

- Reproduction
  - Relatively few studies have investigated life history patterns
  - Documented cases appear to be isomorphic alternation of generations
  - Gametangia/sporangia look like normal vegetative cells

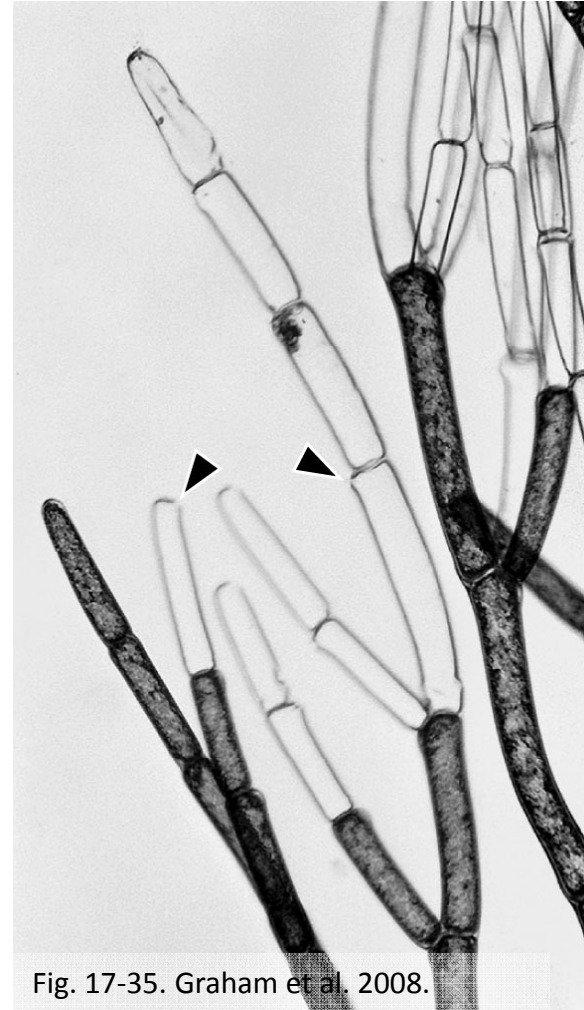


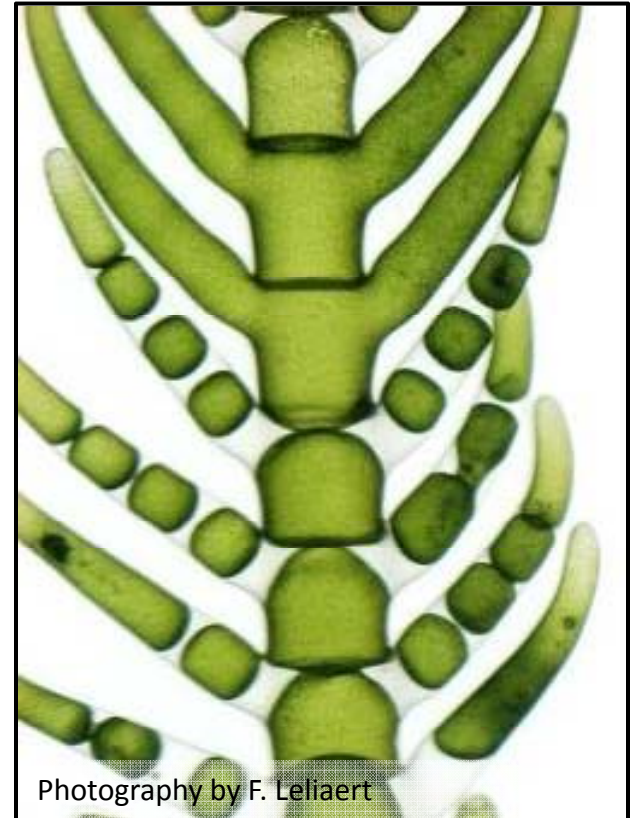
Fig. 17-35. Graham et al. 2008.





# Cell Division

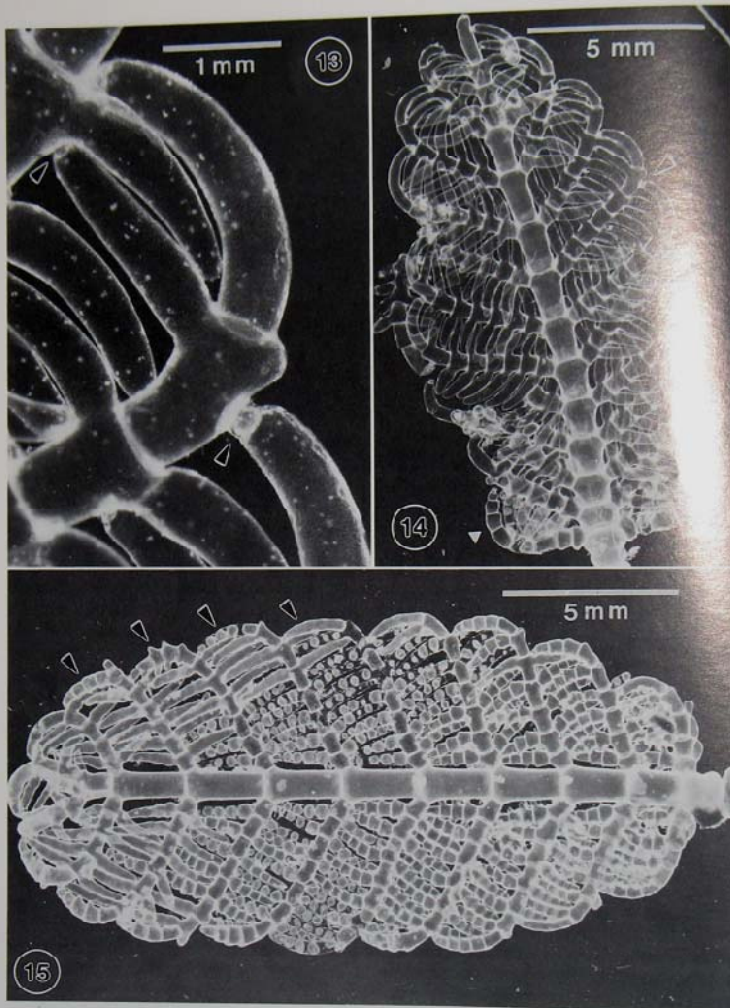
- Numerous modes of cell division known
  - Most occurs by centripetal invagination of the primordial septum
  - Segregative cell division is well known in some members of Siphonocladales s.s.
    - Simultaneous division of the entire protoplasm into numerous multinucleate aggregates of cytoplasm
    - These later form walled spheres that remain in the parent cell and expand to form new cells or branches
  - Modified Segregative Cell Division
    - *Boergesenia* and *Valonia* release cytoplasmic aggregates that grow into new plants



# Segregative Cell Division (in *Struvea*) Cell Damage (in *Phyllocladion*)

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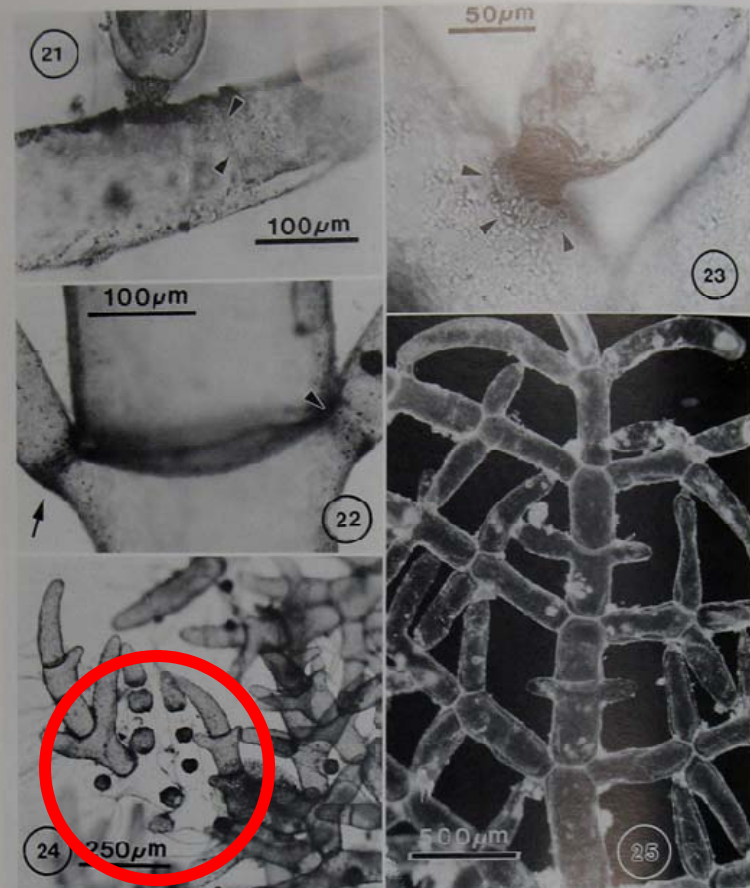
Kraft, GT and MJ Wynne. 1996. Phycological Res., 44:129-142.



**Figs 13-15.** *Struvea plumosa* Sond. 13. First- and second-order laterals in which segregation of tenacular cells (arrowheads) preceded other segregative cell divisions. 14. Overall habit of the reticulate frond from which Fig. 13 was taken (at the region of black arrowhead). The first segregative divisions of second-order laterals are taking place on the lowermost primary laterals (white arrowheads). 15. Progressively acropetal segregative subdivisions of second-order laterals. The greatest irregularity of timing is seen in apical cells of first-order laterals (arrowheads).

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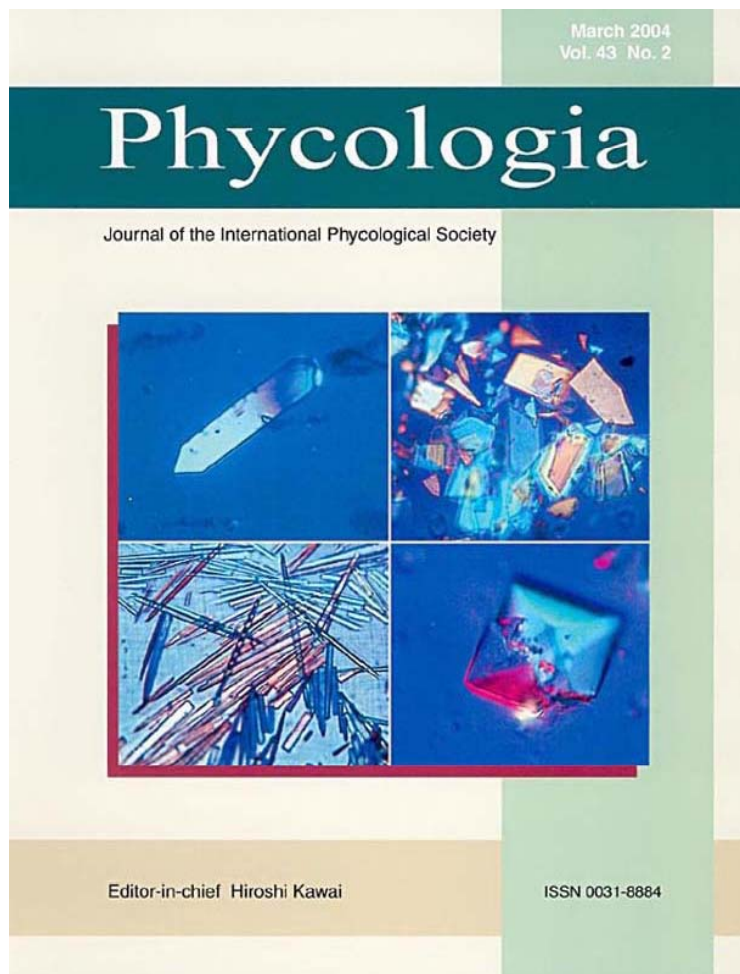
Kraft, GT and MJ Wynne. 1996. Phycological Res., 44:129-142.



**Figs 21-25.** *Phyllocladion anastomosans* (Harv.) Kraft et M. J. Wynne. 21. Early stage in the formation of a centripetally growing cross-wall (arrowheads) in a first-order lateral. The cytoplasm (arrow) is continuous through the site of incipient septation rather than segregative segmented. 22. Opposite third-order laterals, one separated from its parent cell by a complete septation (arrow), the other in the initial stages of cross-wall formation (arrowhead). 23. A tenacular cell terminating a third-order lateral and attached to the cell of a second-order lateral by a crenulate adhesion pad (arrowheads). 24. Axes in which rounded cytoplasm, probably the result of mechanical injury, superficially give the appearance of segregative-division products. 25. Overview of first- to third-order laterals showing the mixed stages of branch development due to non-synchronous and intercalary cell divisions.



# Crystalline Inclusions in Cladophorales



*Phycologia* (2004) Volume 43 (2), 189-203

Published 29 March 2004

## Crystalline cell inclusions: a new diagnostic character in the Cladophorophyceae (Chlorophyta)

FREDERIK LELIAERT\* AND ERIC COPPEJANS

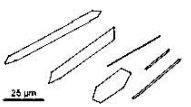

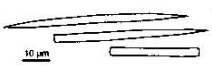
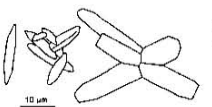
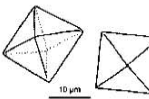
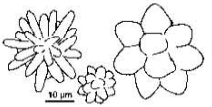
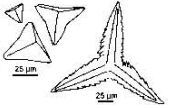
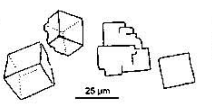
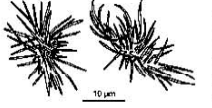
*Research Group Phycology, Biology Department, Ghent University, 9000 Ghent, Belgium*

F LELIAERT AND E COPPEJANS. 2004. Crystalline cell inclusions: a new diagnostic character in the Cladophorophyceae (Chlorophyta). *Phycologia* 43: 000–000.

Crystalline cell inclusions were observed in 45 species of Cladophorophyceae. The crystals can be classified into eight morphological types, including needle shaped, prismatic, octahedral, tetrahedral, cubic and globular, and they were found to occur in clusters or as single crystals. In addition to the different morphological types, the crystals are characterized by different chemical compositions. Chemical tests distinguished the crystals as being composed of calcium oxalate, calcium carbonate or proteins. The diversity of crystal types raises the possibility that these structures have systematic value. The occurrence of crystalline structures is compared with previously published phylogenies of the Cladophorophyceae. Some types of crystals were found to be genus or species specific, whereas other types occurred in distantly related groups. The crystalline cell inclusions can be useful diagnostic characters. For example, *Cladophoropsis sundanensis* and *Cladophora coelothrix* are distantly related but have similar thallus architecture, and they can be distinguished from one another by the presence or absence of crystals.

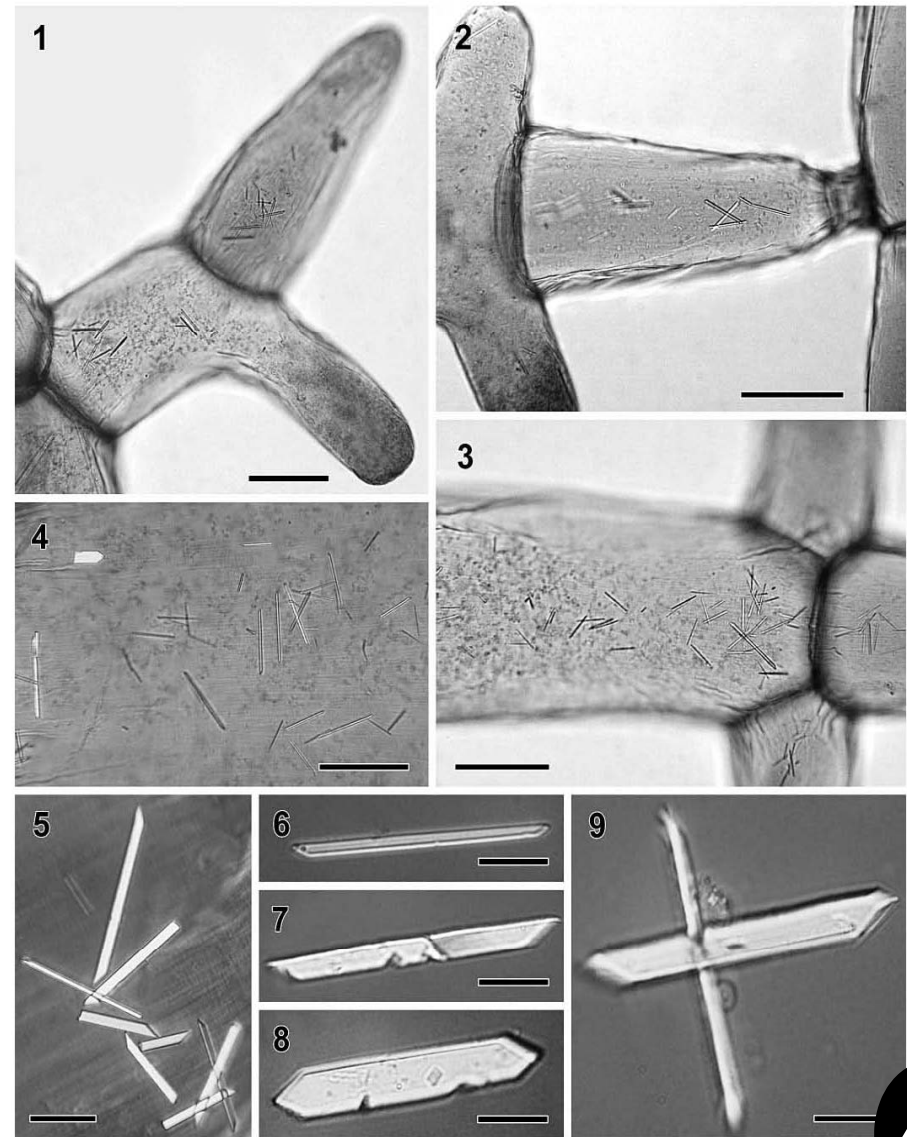


**Table 1.** Morphological types of crystalline cell inclusions in the Cladophorophyceae, taxa where these types have been solubility, staining and birefringence under polarized light.

	Morphological type	Taxa
Type 1a	crystals single, elongated prismatic (Figs. 1–9) 	<i>Boodlea</i> spp. (except <i>B. vanbosseae</i> ) <i>Phylloclityon anastomosans</i> <i>Siruveopsis siamensis</i> <i>Chamaedoris orientalis</i> <i>Cladophoropsis</i> (pro parte)
Type 1b	crystals single, broad prismatic, hexagonal to diamond shaped or triangular (Figs. 10–16) 	<i>Chamaedoris peniculum</i> <i>Cladophoropsis magnus</i> <i>Phylloclityon</i> spp. (p.p.) <i>Siruvea plumosa</i>
Type 2	crystals single, needle shaped, attenuating to one or both ends, or elongated rod shaped (Figs. 17–22) 	<i>Apjohnia laetevirens</i>
Type 3	crystalline structures elongated elliptical to irregular rod shaped, single or clustered in cruciate to star-shaped aggregates (Figs. 23–27) 	<i>Dictyosphaeria cavernosa</i> <i>Dictyosphaeria verluysii</i>
Type 4	octahedral crystals (Figs. 28–32) 	<i>Valoniopsis pachynema</i> <i>Cladophora doiyana</i> <i>Siphonocladus tropicus</i> : rare
Type 5	globular aggregates of rod- or cone-shaped crystals (Figs. 33–35) 	<i>Valonia</i> spp. <i>Ventricaria ventricosa</i> ( <i>Cladophora doiyana</i> : rare)
Type 6	tetrahedral crystals; in most species (marked with *) growing into four armed (apparently three armed), star-shaped structures (Figs. 36–44) 	<i>Cladophoropsis herpestica</i> <i>Chamaedoris auriculata</i> * <i>Chamaedoris delphinii</i> * <i>Phylloclityon papuense</i> (stipe) <i>Valonia aegagropila</i> * <i>Valonia fastigiata</i> * <i>Valonia urticularis</i> *
Type 7	cubical cell inclusions, single or fused (Figs. 45, 46) 	<i>Cladophora prolifera</i> <i>Cladophora rugulosa</i> <i>Cladophora rupestris</i>
Type 8	star-shaped or irregular clusters of fine, needle-shaped crystals (Figs. 47–49) 	<i>Boodlea vanbosseae</i> <i>Chaetomorpha</i> spp. <i>Chamaedoris</i> spp. <i>Cladophora coelothrix</i> <i>Microclityon tenuis</i> <i>Siphonocladus tropicus</i> <i>Valonia</i> spp. <i>Valoniopsis pachynema</i> <i>Ventricaria ventricosa</i>

<sup>1</sup> HCl, hydrochloric acid; Acet. acid, acetic acid; Sod. hyp., sodium hypochlorite.

<sup>2</sup> Y, Yasue method for CaOx staining; L, staining with Lugol iodine.



**Figs 1–9.** Elongate prismatic crystals (Type 1a) in *Phylloclityon anastomosans*.

**Figs 1, 2.** Crystals present in the apical cells but absent from the tenacular cell. Scale bars = 50 µm.

**Figs 3, 4.** Crystals abundant in the cells of the main axes. Scale bars = 50 µm.

**Fig. 5.** Aggregate of crystals. Birefringence under polarizing optics demonstrates crystallinity of inclusions. Scale bar = 25 µm.

**Figs 6–8.** Morphological variation of crystals within a single cell. Scale bars = 10 µm.

**Fig. 9.** Fusion of two crystals to form cruciate structures. Scale bar = 10 µm.



# Order Cladophorales/ Siphonocladales

---

- Numerous studies have attempted to elucidate phylogeny within the order based on SSU, LSU and/or ITS sequences
  - Phenotypic plasticity and morphological convergence are rampant
  - Few taxonomic changes; intractable w/o type or topotype material
- Problem compounded by the lack of plastid or mitochondrial sequence data from *any* member of the group
- Order appears to be enigmatic with regard to ITS2 secondary structure too, as compared to Coleman's Z-clade trends (Leliaert et al. 2009)



Leliaert, F., Rousseau, F., de Reviere, B., Coppejans, E., 2003. Phylogeny of the Cladophorophyceae (Chlorophyta) inferred from partial LSU rRNA gene sequences: is the recognition of a separate order Siphonocladales justified? *Eur. J. Phycol.* 38, 233–246.

---

- “The molecular phylogeny of the Cladophorophyceae differs considerably from the traditional classification based on thallus architecture and mode of cell division.
- Homoplasy caused by convergence, parallel evolution and secondary reduction seems to be an important factor in clouding the evolutionary relationships within the Cladophorophyceae based on morphology.
- Of the four or five recognized families, only the morphologically well characterized Anadyomenaceae (including *Anadyomene* and *Microdictyon*) appears to form a monophyletic group.”
  - Leliaert et al. 2003





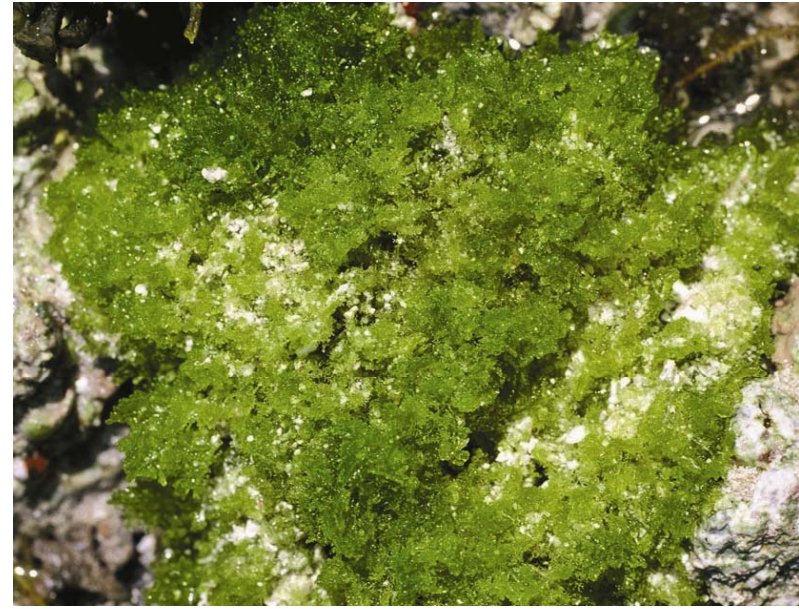
Leliaert F., De Clerck O., Verbruggen H., Boedeker, C. & Coppejans E. (2007)  
Molecular phylogeny of the Siphonocladales (Chlorophyta: Cladophorophyceae)  
Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution 44: 1237-1256.

---

- 4 years later, more taxa, more markers
  - “As in nearly all algal groups, species of Siphonocladales are circumscribed based on the morphological species concept, which recognizes species by discontinuities in morphological characters.
  - A major predicament in doing so lies in the fact that siphonocladalean plants are relatively simple and that there is only a limited range of morphological characters available for delimitation of species. Moreover, many morphological characters have been shown to be highly plastic and subject to environmental conditions.
  - Difficulties of accurate morphospecies delimitations are mirrored in the present molecular phylogeny. Many traditionally circumscribed species are distributed in different clades. “



## Evolution of phenotypic plasticity in the *Boodlea*-complex (Chlorophyta: Siphonocladales)



Frederik Leliaert, Brian Wysor, Heroen Verbruggen & Olivier De Clerck

4th European Phycological Congress



Pan-American Advanced Studies Institute  
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# Boodlea / Phyllocladion / Cladophoropsis

*Boodlea*, *Phyllocladion*, *Cladophoropsis* (Siphonocladales)



*Boodlea composita*

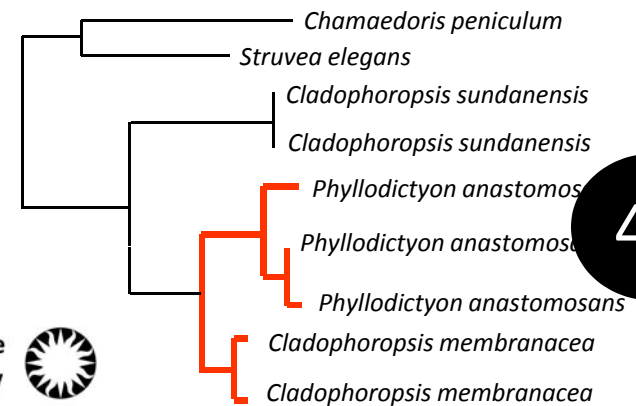


*Phyllocladion anastomosans*



*Cladophoropsis membranacea*

- Numerous species described
- Morphological variability → intermediate morphologies → vague taxonomic boundaries (Egerod 1975)
- Closely related based on ITS data (Kooistra et al. 1993)



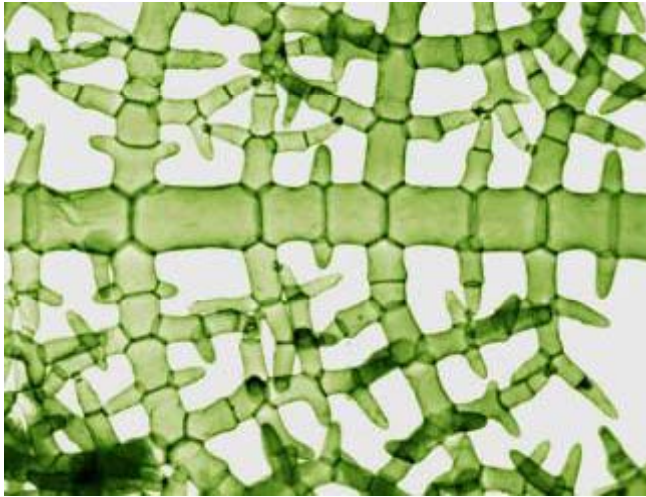
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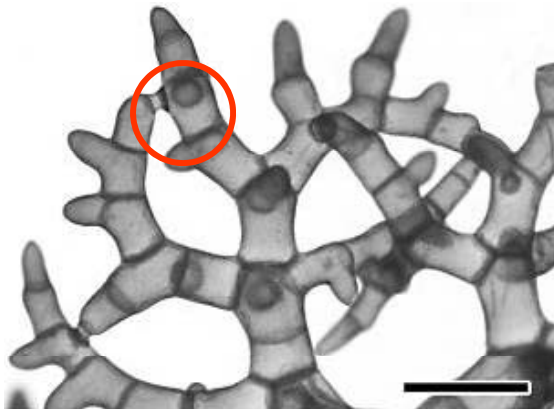
# Phenotypic plasticity in the *Boodlea* complex

Phenotypic plasticity crossing generic boundaries:  
evidence from cultures (different light and temperature conditions)

Field condition



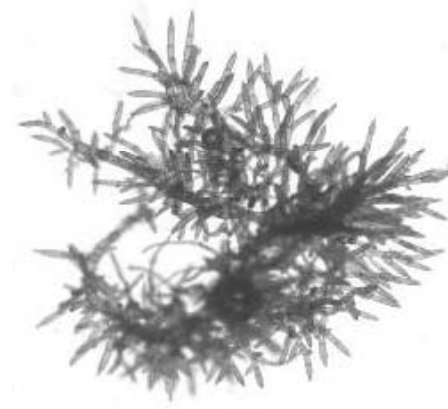
*"Phyllodictyon anastomosans"*



(18 °C, 5  $\mu\text{E m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )



*"Cladophoropsis membranacea"*



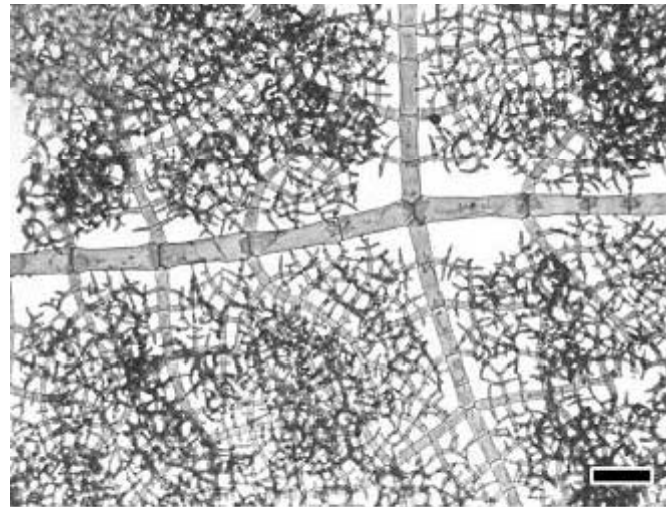
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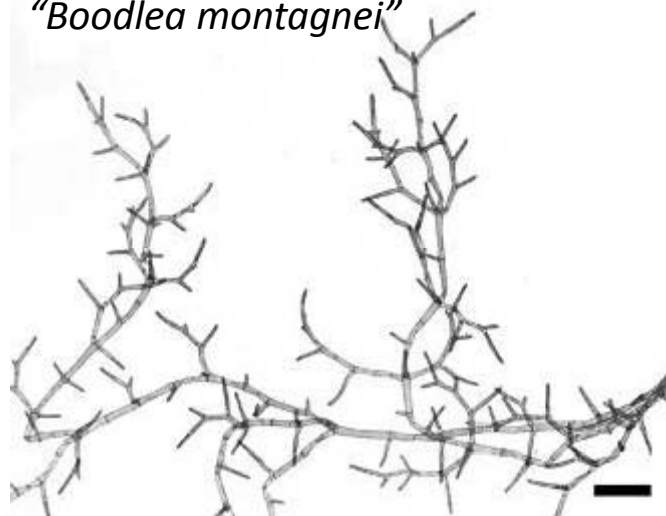


# Phenotypic plasticity in the *Boodlea* complex

## Phenotypic plasticity in nature: "*Boodlea siamensis*"



"*Boodlea montagnei*"



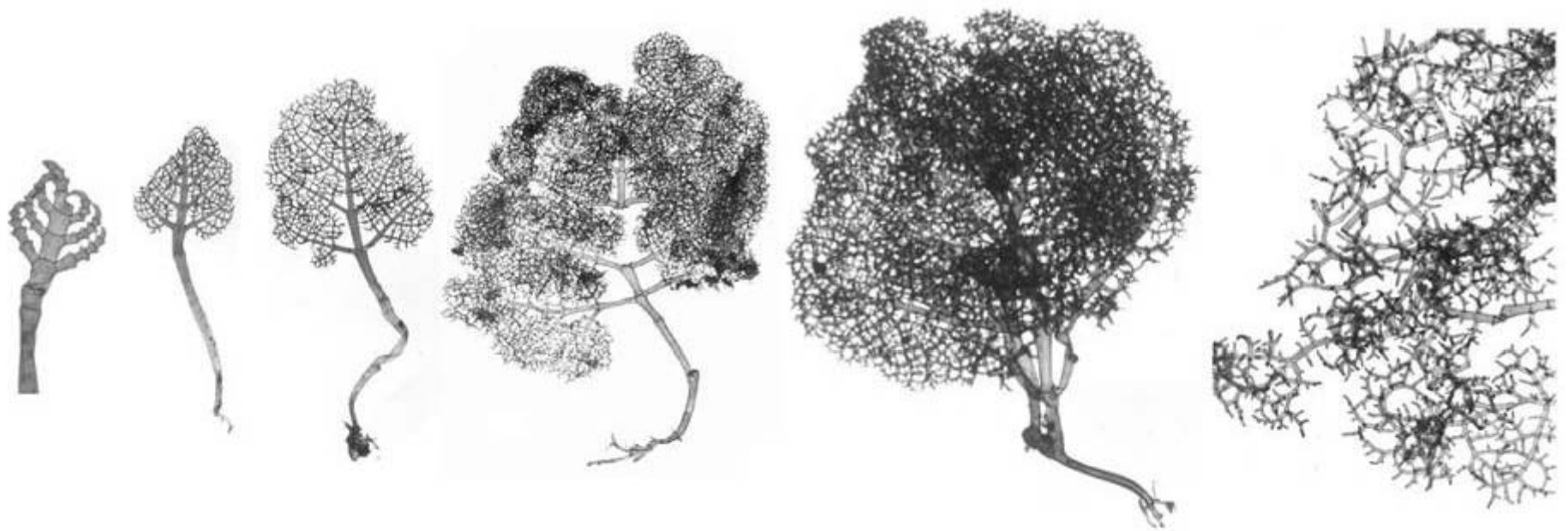
identical ITS rDNA sequences



# Phenotypic plasticity in the *Boodlea* complex

Phenotypic plasticity crossing generic boundaries: developmental variability in nature

*Boodlea/Phyllodictyon* (Chwaka Bay, Zanzibar)



*"Struvea delicatula"*



*"Phyllodictyon anastomosans"*



*"Boodlea siamensis"*

identical ITS rDNA sequences



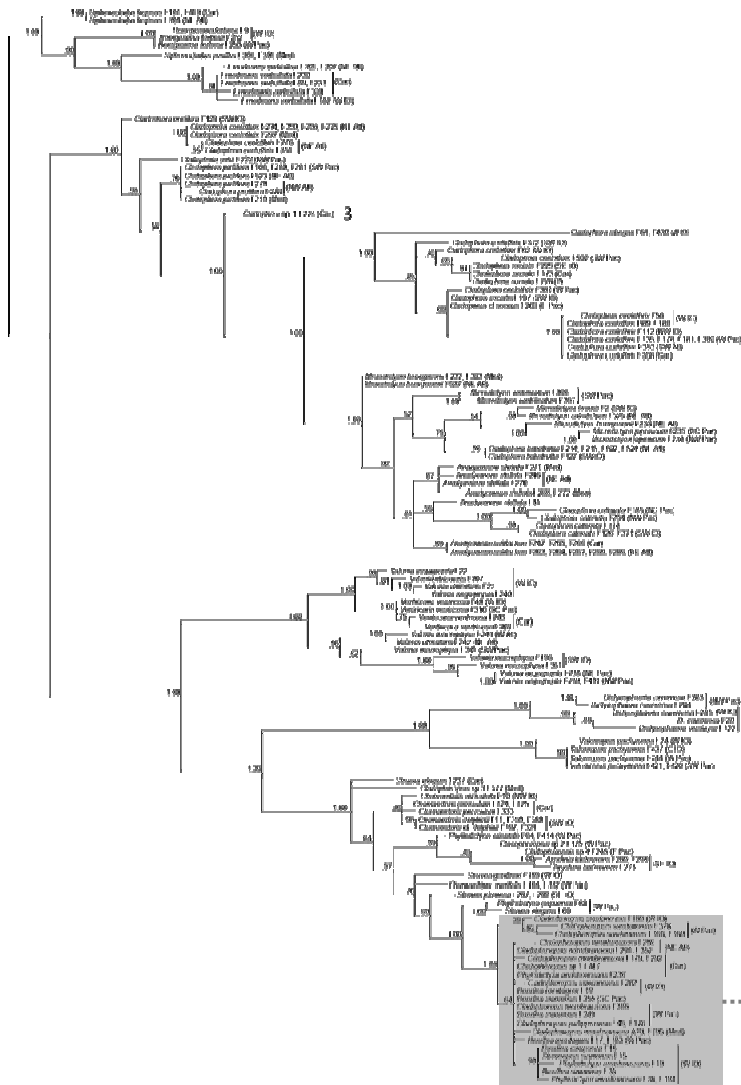
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# Boodlea complex: ITS phylogeny

## Siphonocladales phylogeny LSU nrDNA:



## Boodlea complex

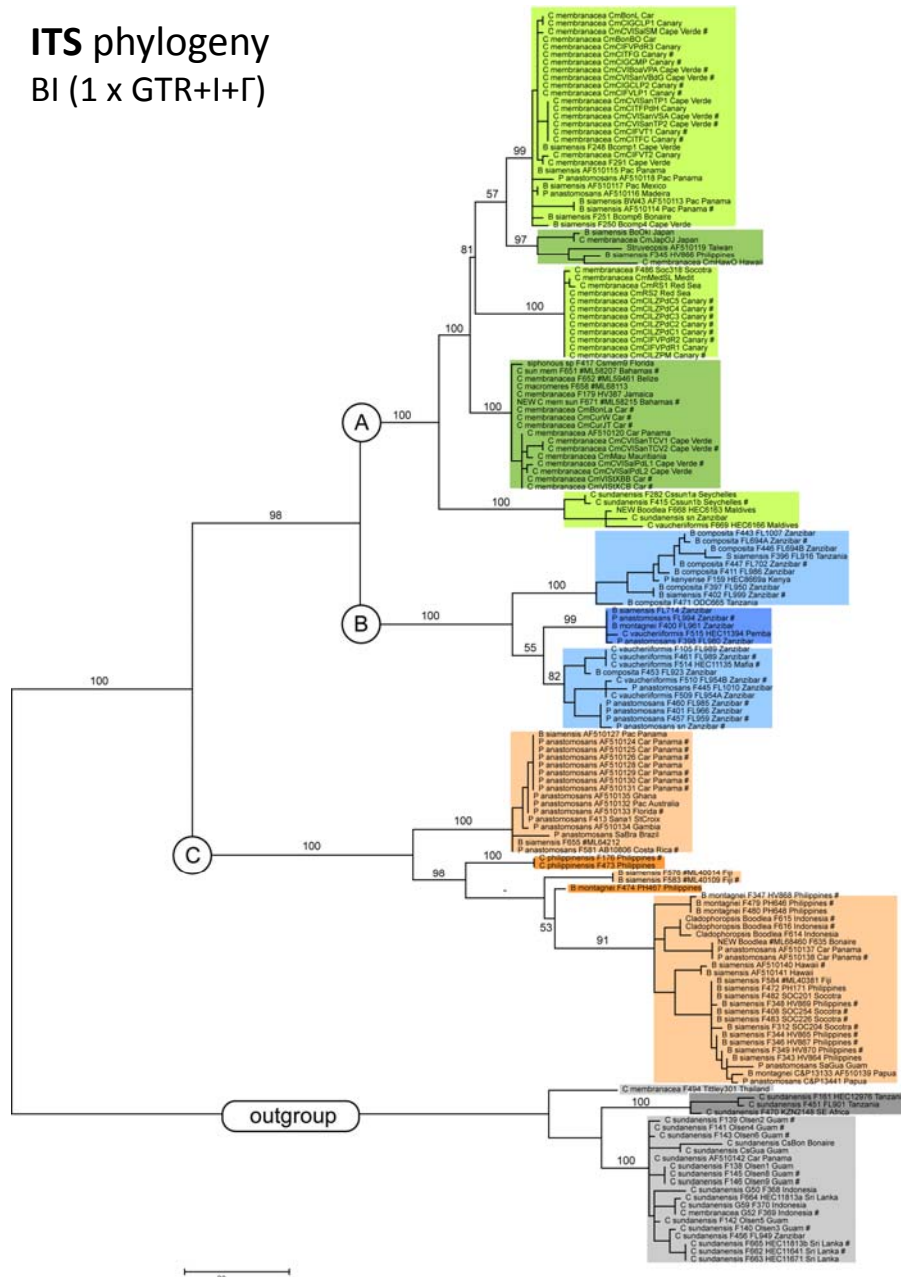
- 166 ITS1-ITS2 sequences (125 new)
- 14 morphospecies
  1. *Boodlea composita*
  2. *Boodlea montagnei*
  3. *Boodlea siamensis*
  4. *Boodlea* sp.
  5. *Cladophoropsis macromeres*
  6. *Cladophoropsis membranacea*
  7. *Cladophoropsis philippinensis*
  8. *Cladophoropsis sundanensis* (outgroup)
  9. *Phyllocladon anastomosans*
  10. *Phyllocladon kenyense*
  11. *Siphonous* sp.
  12. *Spongocladia vaucheriiformis*
  13. "*Struvea delicatula*"
  14. *Struveopsis siamensis*

- Worldwide sampling



# Boodlea complex: ITS phylogeny

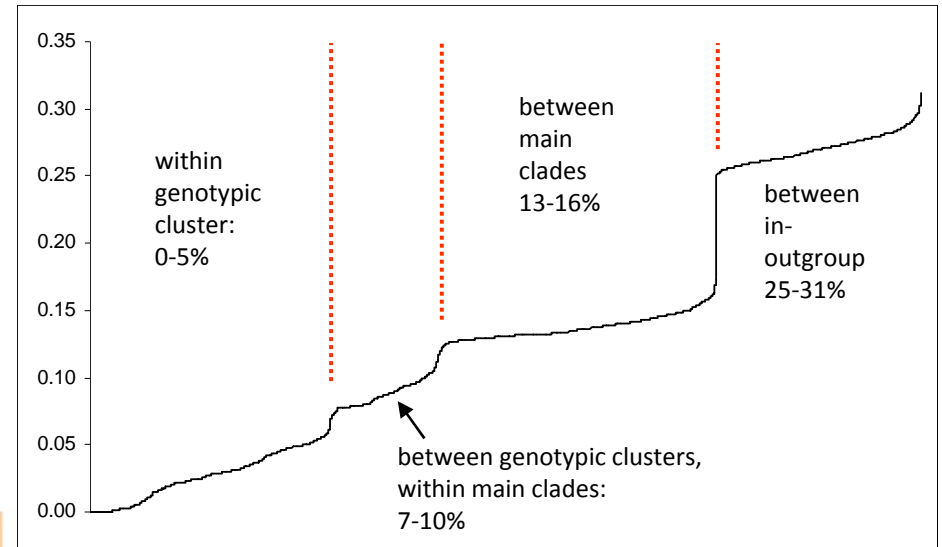
ITS phylogeny  
BI (1 x GTR+I+Γ)



13 genotypic clusters ~ "species"

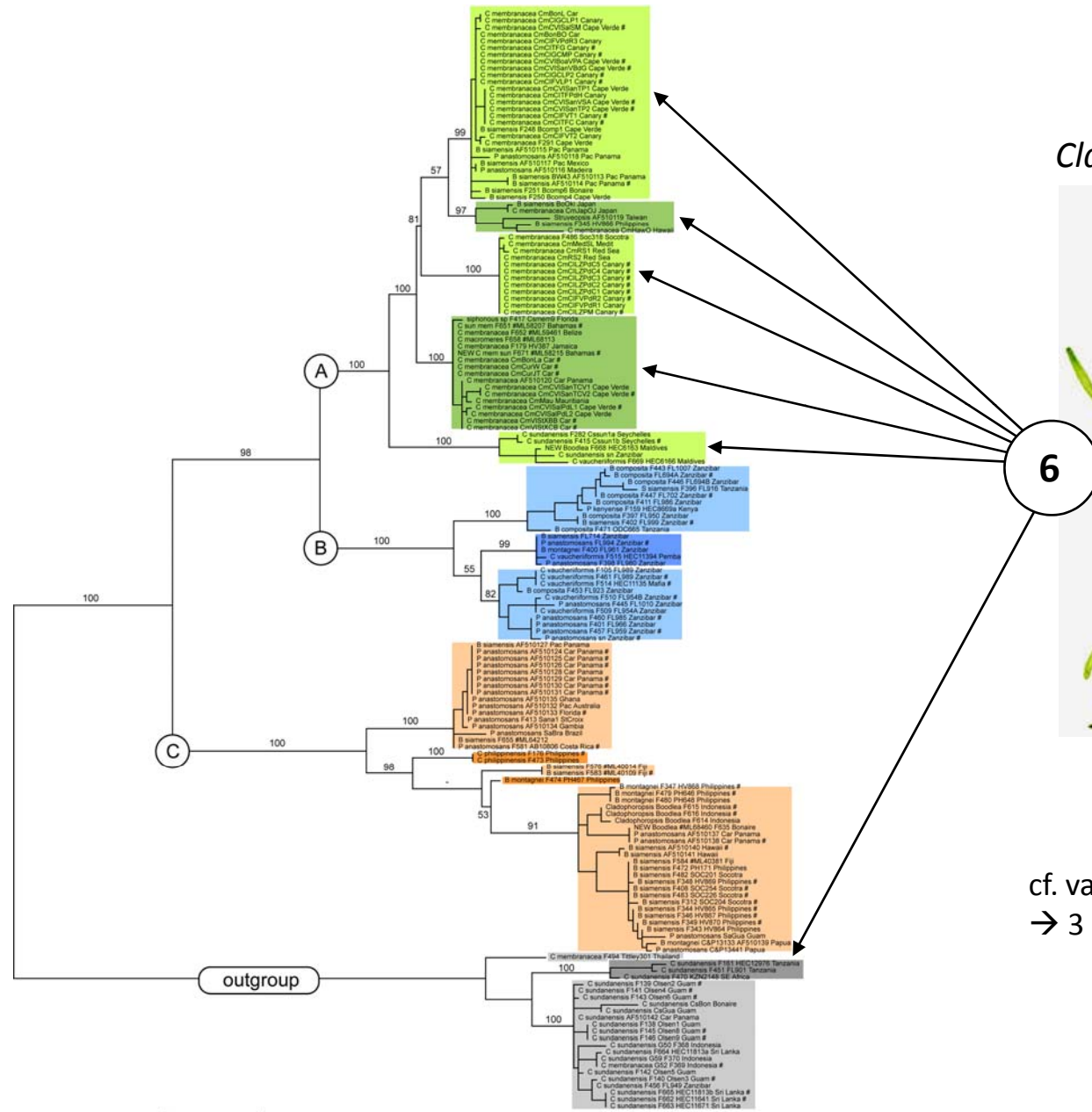
Within cluster genetic divergence up to 5%  
Between clade divergence up to 31%

uncorrected p-distances





# Boodlea complex: ITS phylogeny



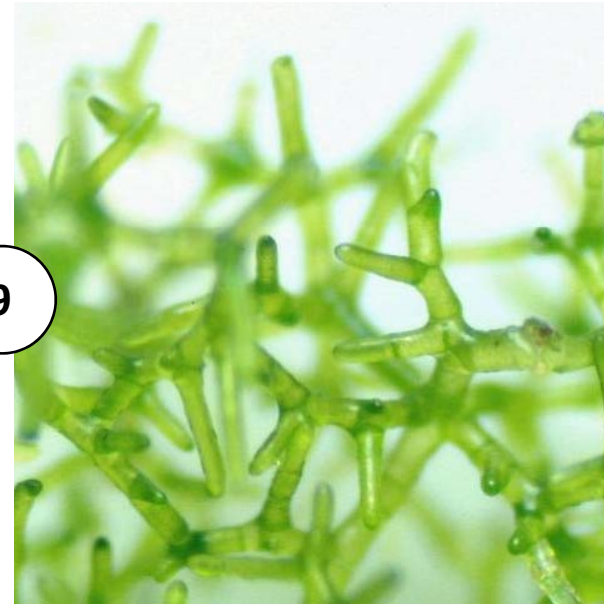
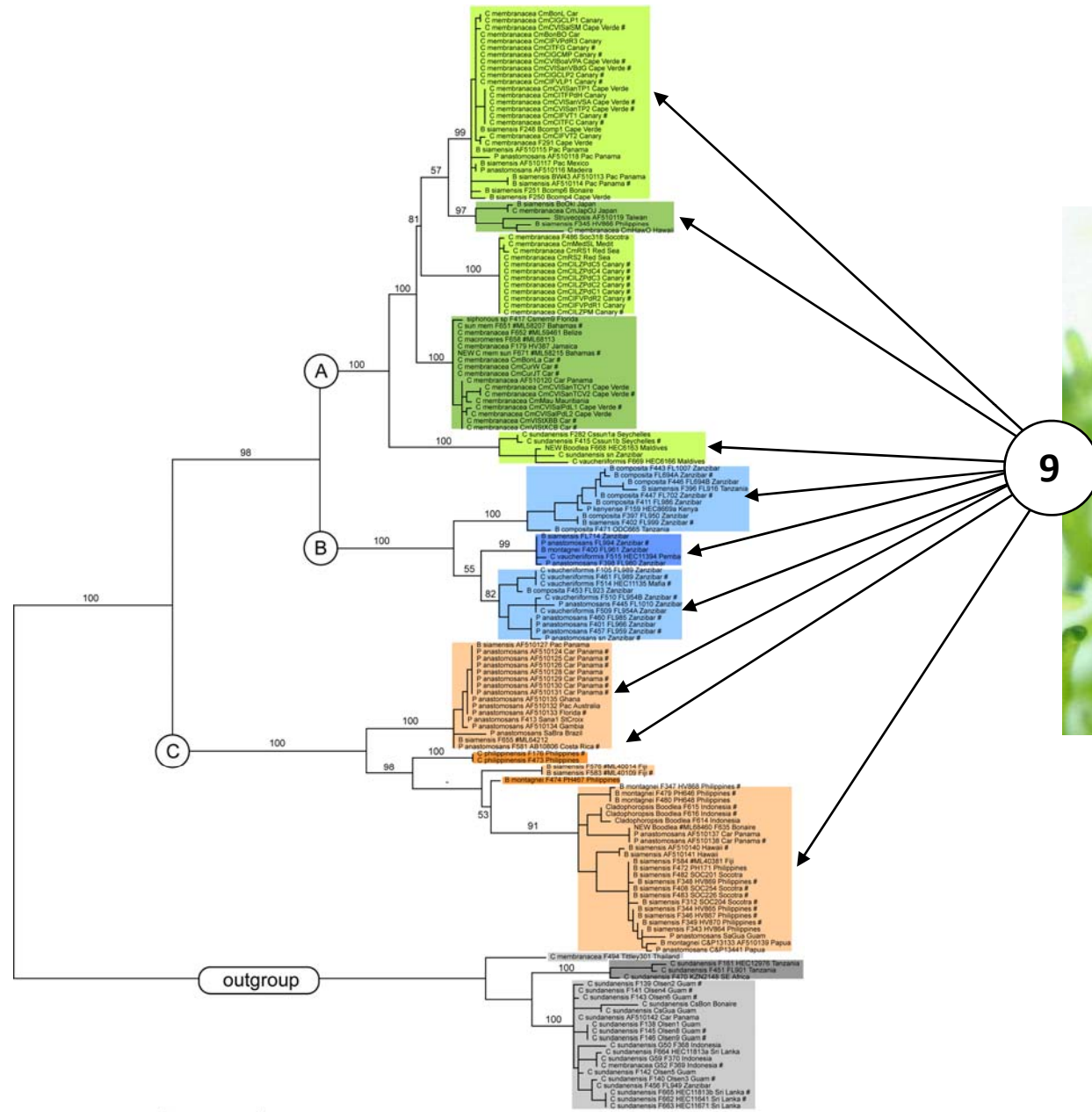
*Cladophoropsis membranacea*



cf. van der Strate et al. 2002:  
 → 3 cryptic species in *C. membranacea*

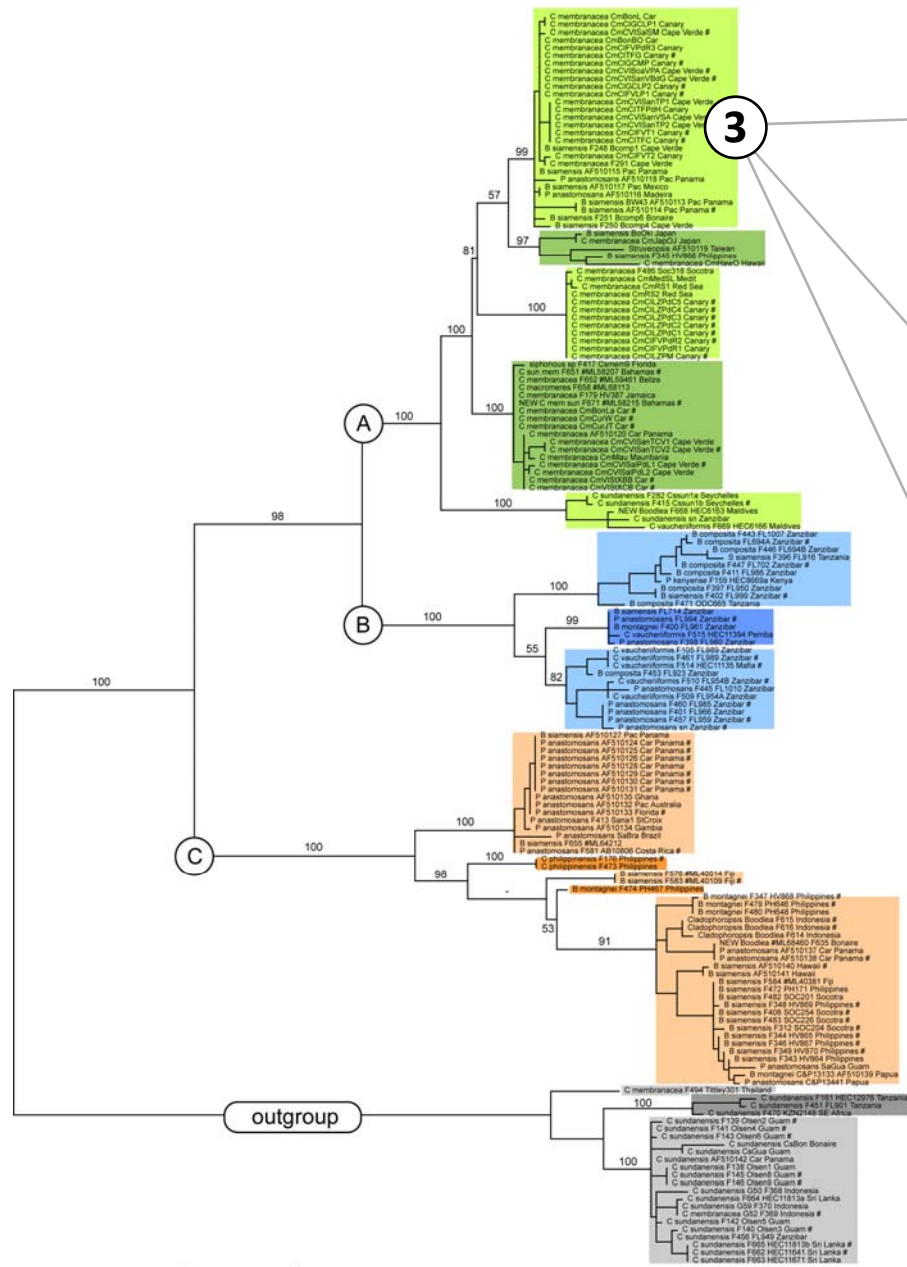
# Boodlea complex: ITS phylogeny

*Boodlea siamensis*





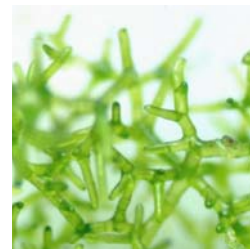
# Boodlea complex: ITS phylogeny



*Cladophoropsis membranacea*



*Phyllocladon anastomosans*

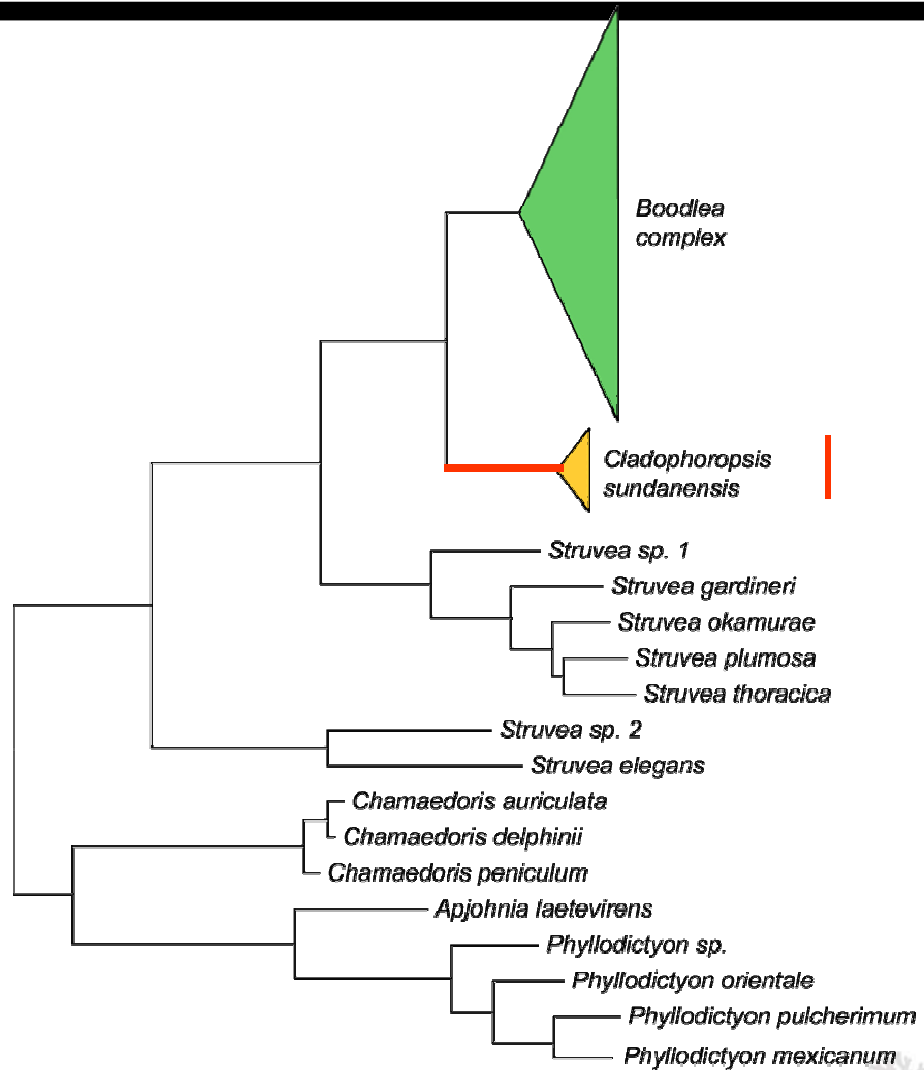


*Boodlea siamensis*

Morphological variation within genotypic clusters  
 → phenotypic plasticity  
 → developmental variability

# Chamaedoris clade - phylogeny

## *Cladophoropsis sundanensis*





# Chamaedoris clade - phylogeny

*Struvea*

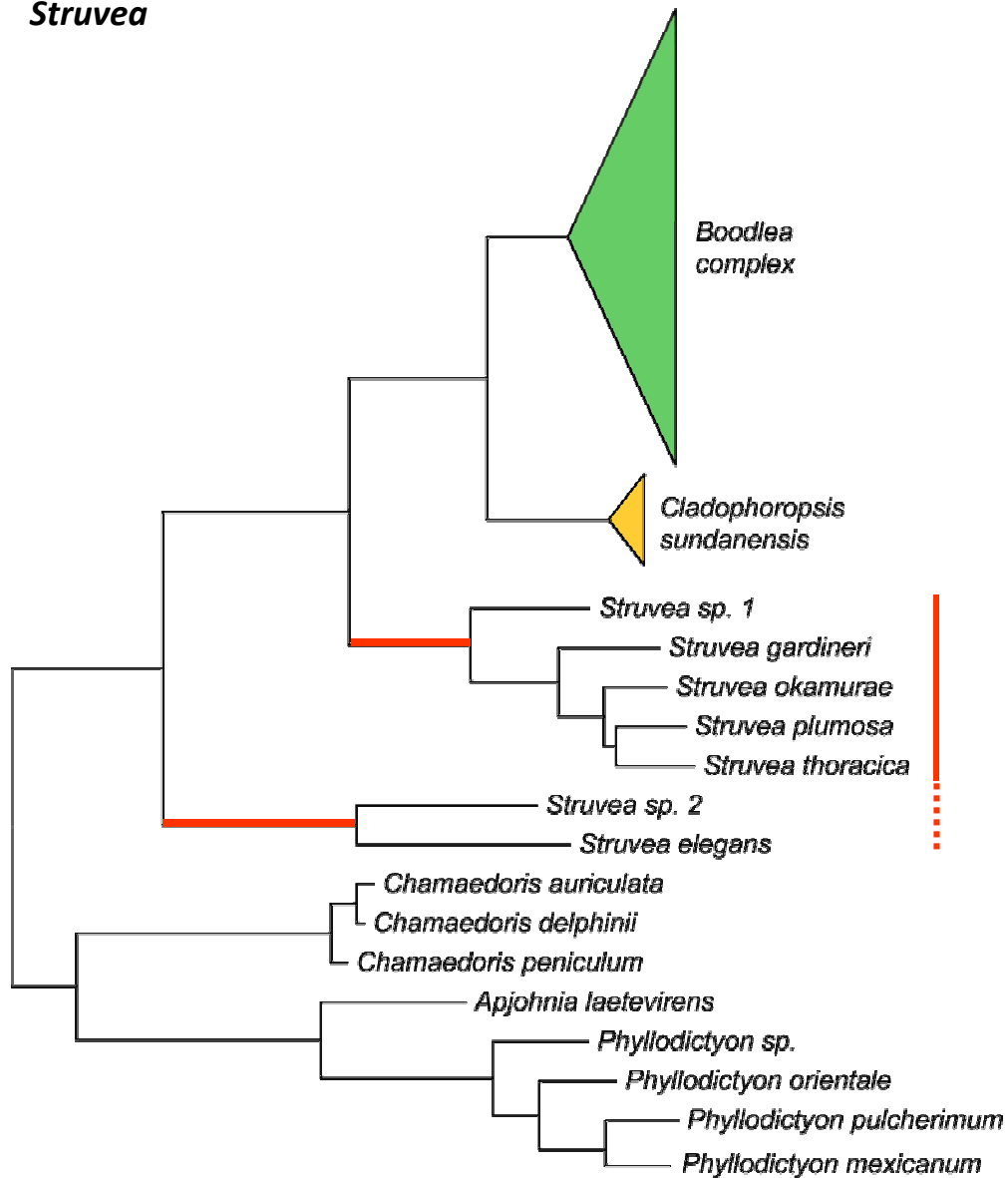
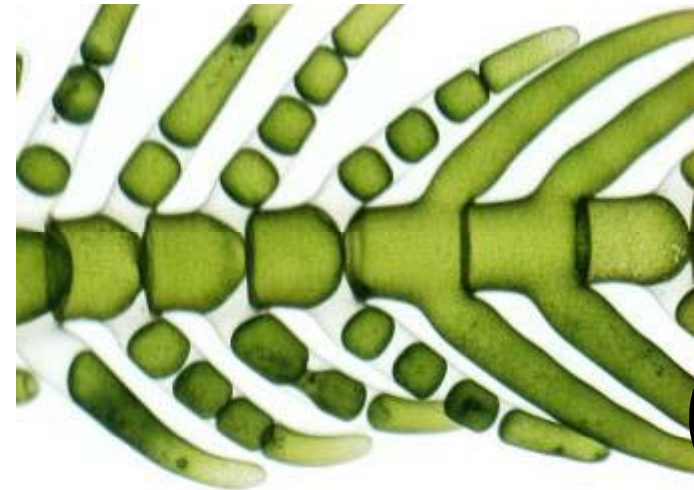


photo: John Huisman

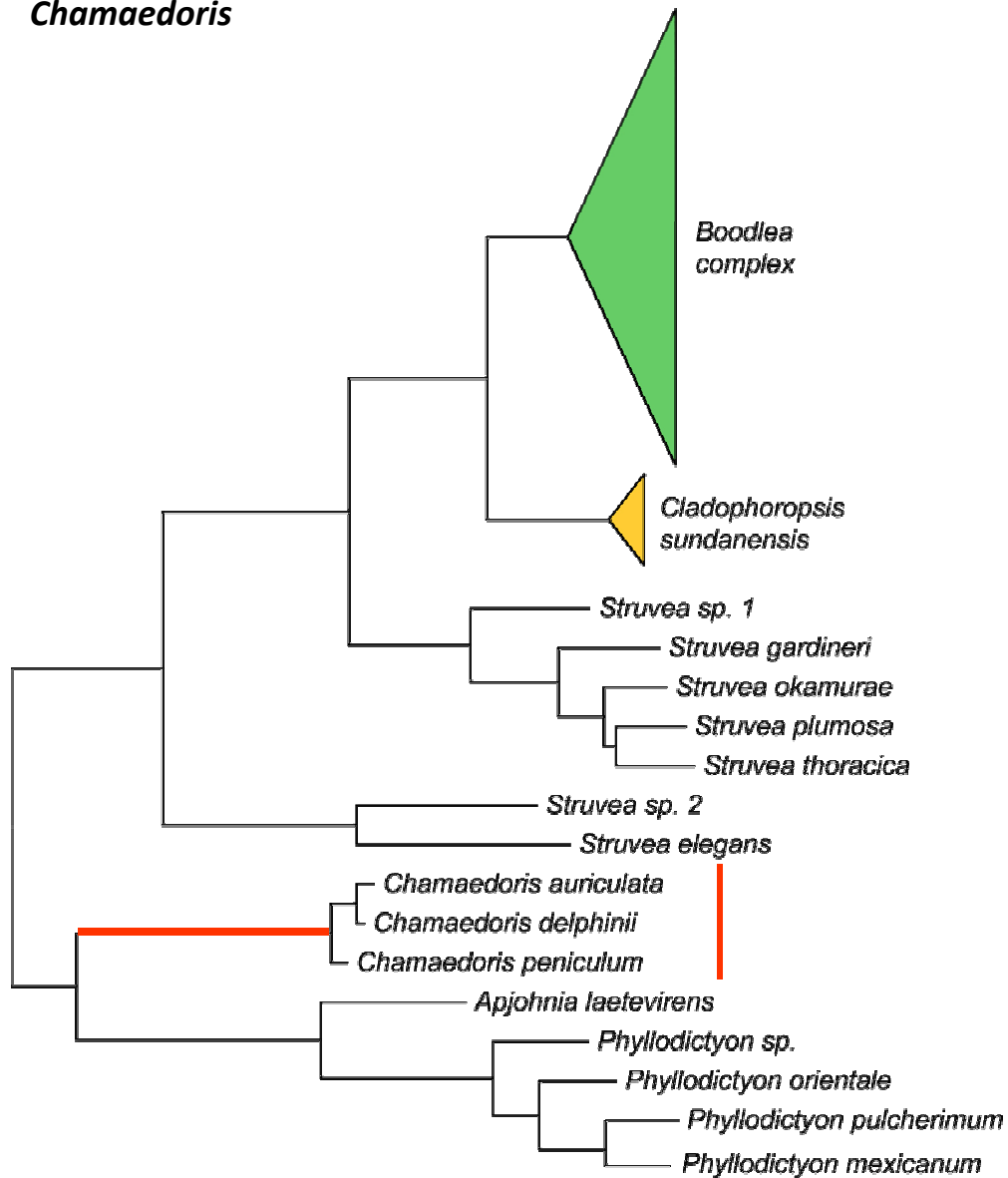
*Struvea plumosa* (Australia)



*Struvea gardineri* (Indian Ocean) culture

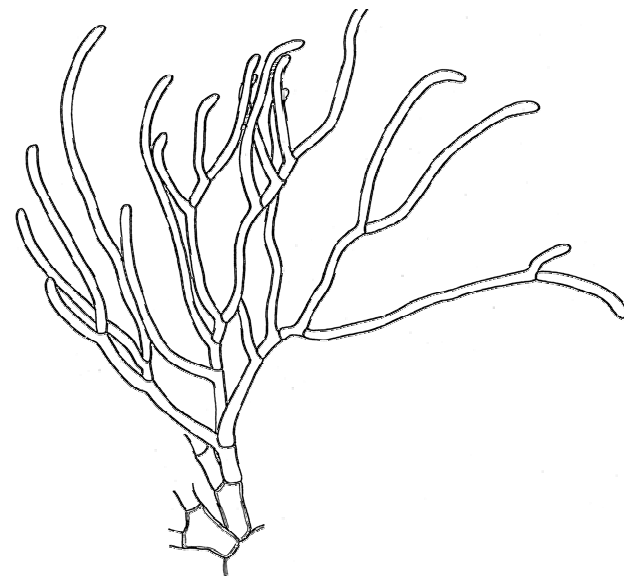
# Chamaedoris clade - phylogeny

*Chamaedoris*



*Chamaedoris auriculata* (Tanzania)

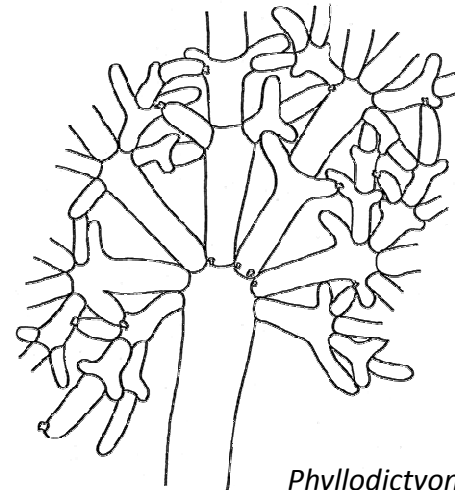
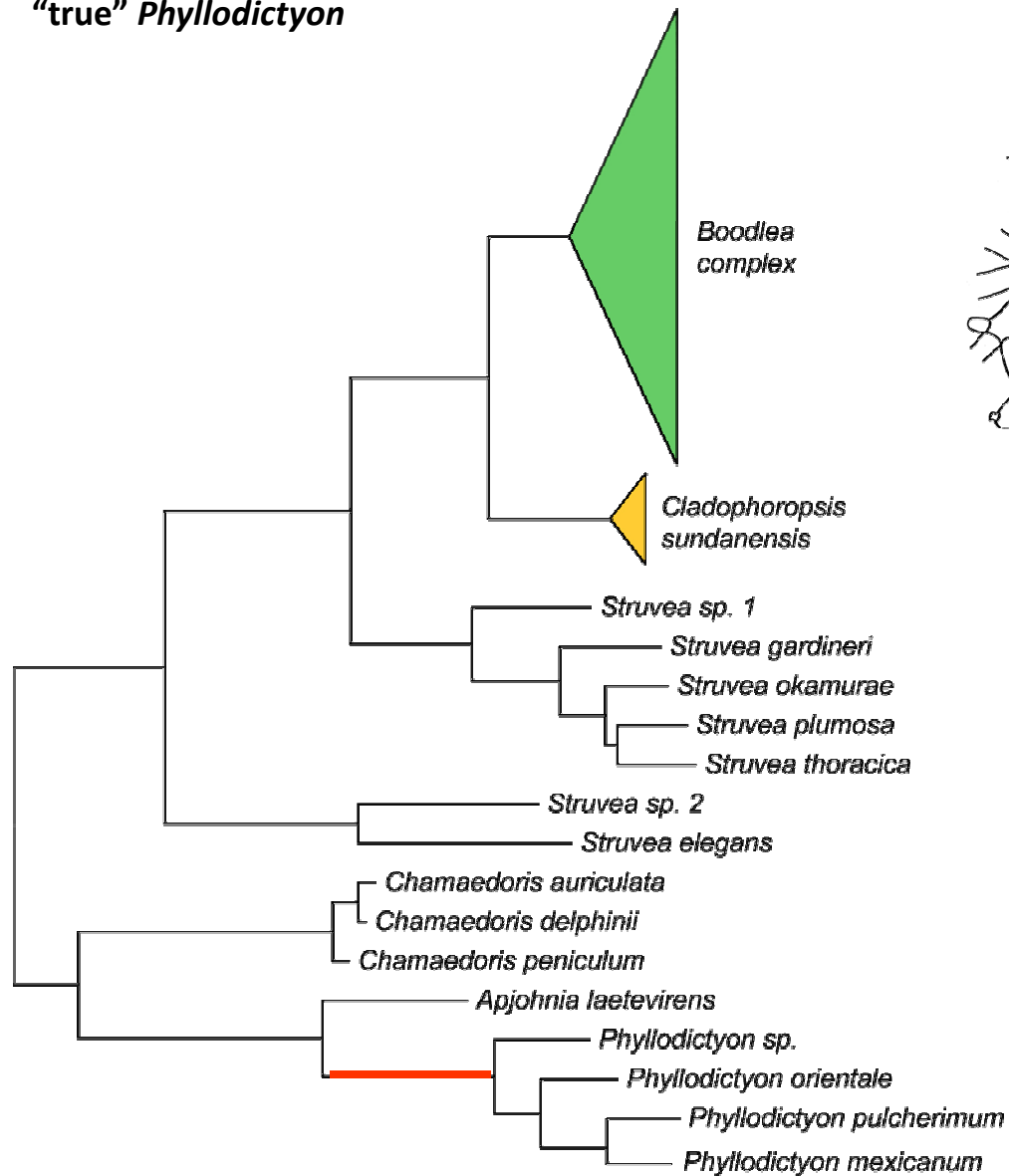
photo: Katrin Österlund



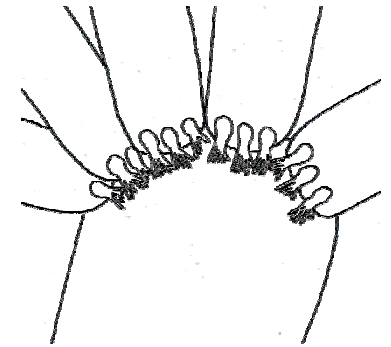


# Chamaedoris clade - phylogeny

"true" *Phyllocladon*



*Phyllocladon pulcherrimum* (Caribbean Sea)

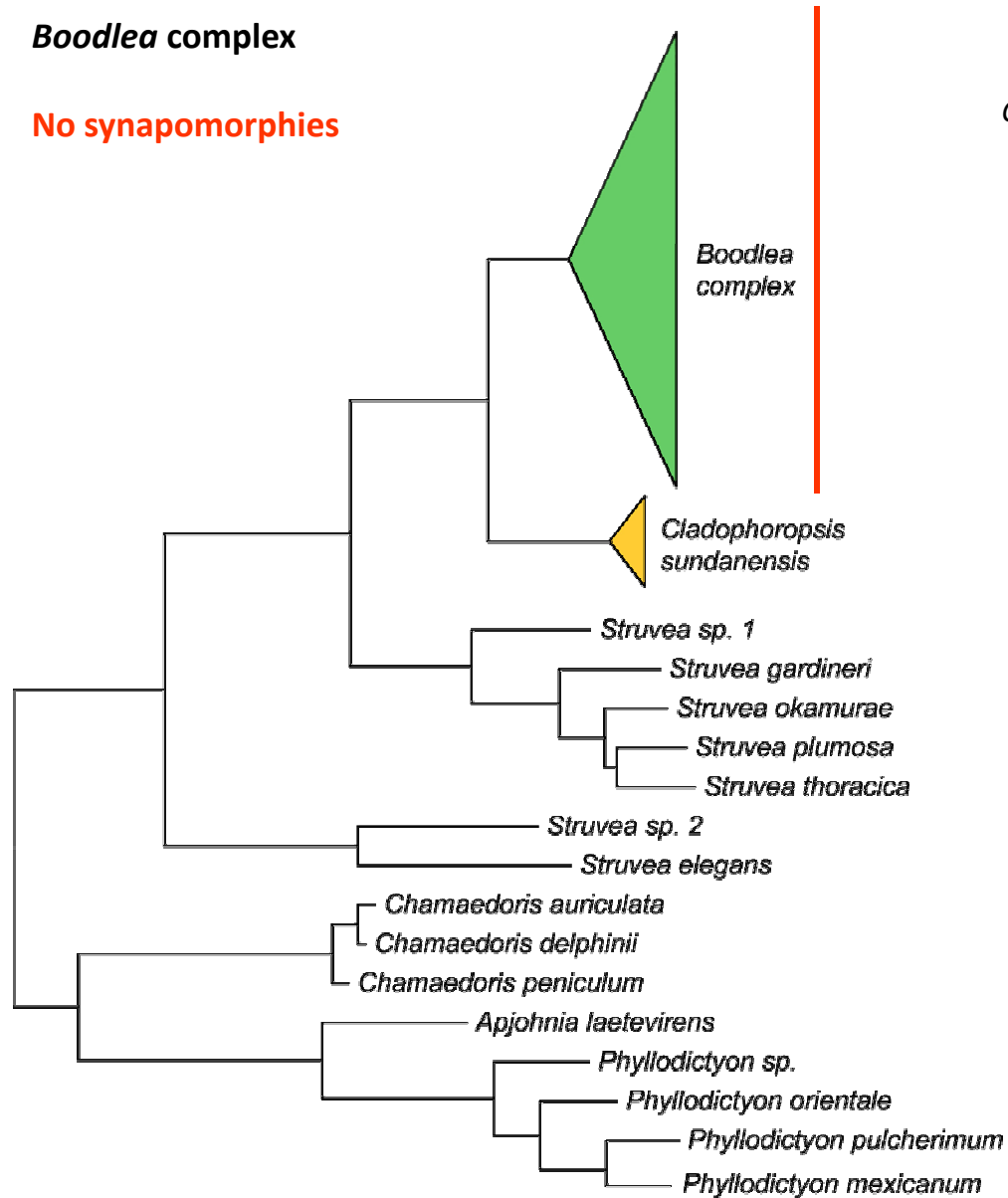


*Phyllocladon orientale* (Indian Ocean) culture

# Chamaedoris clade - phylogeny

**Boodlea complex**

**No synapomorphies**



*Cladophoropsis membranacea*



*Boodlea composita*



*Phyllocladyon anastomosans*





# Plasticity in the *Boodlea* clade

## Plasticity measure (within-species variability)

16 morphological characters:

- A. thallus architecture
- B. branching mode
- C. stipe present
- D. tenacular cells
- E. cross-wall formation
- F. cell dimensions
- G. ...

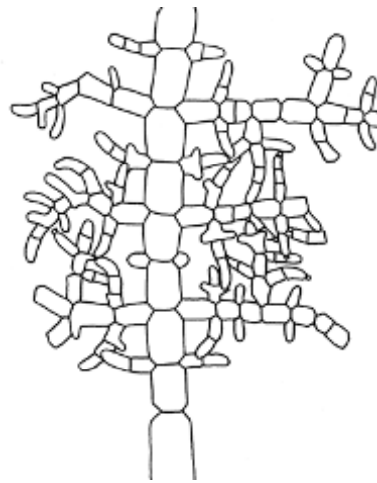
number of different states for character **A** = 3  
+ number of different states for character B = x  
+ number of different states for character C = x  
+ number of different states for character D = x  
+ number of different states for character E = x  
+ ...

plasticity measure: **y**

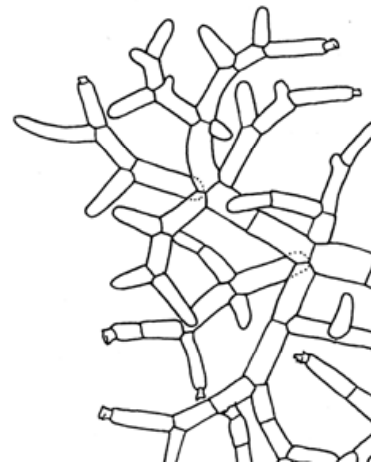
e.g. genotypic cluster A1 - Character B: 3 distinct types of branching



unilateral (1 branch per cell)



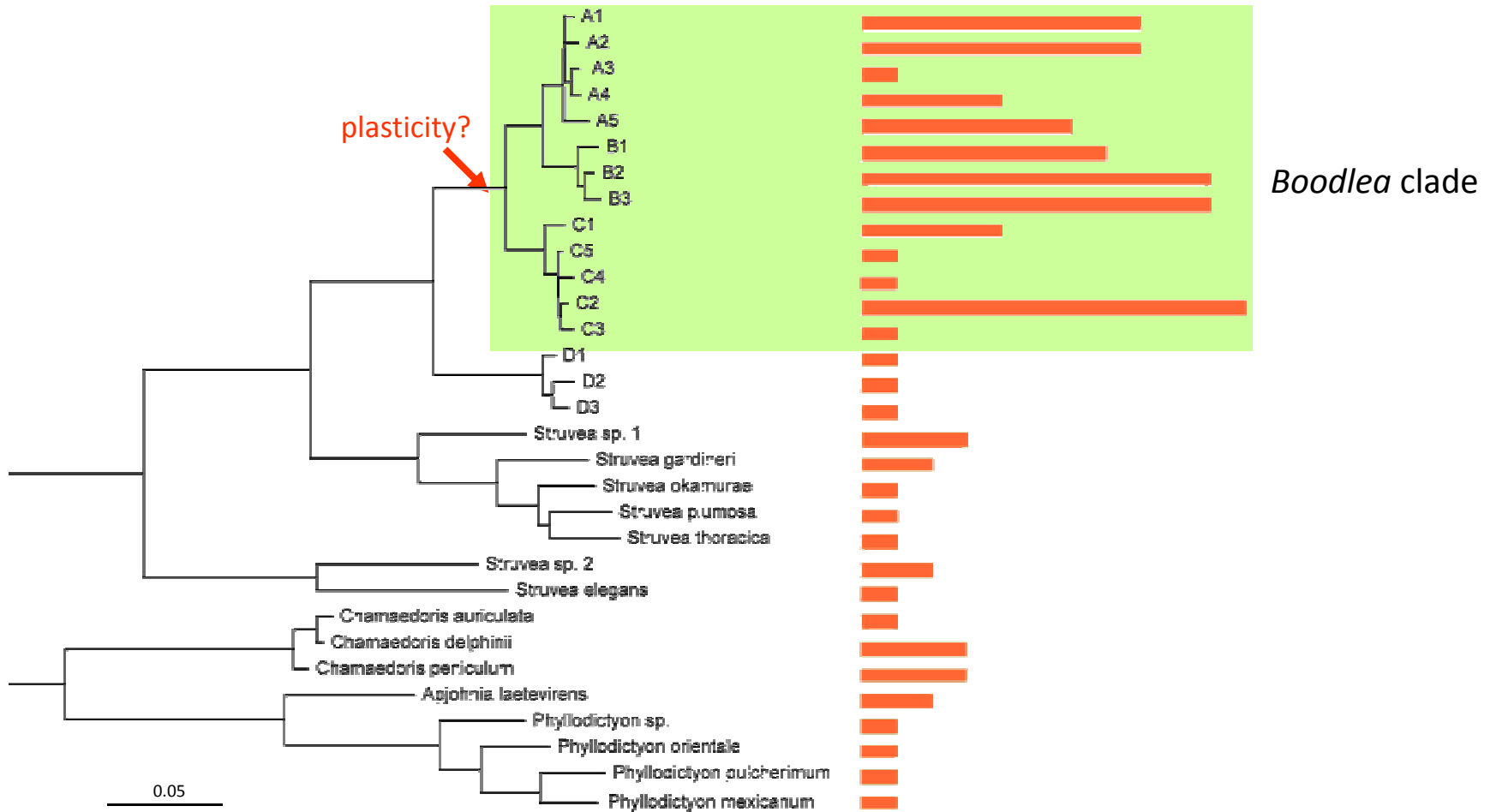
opposite (1-2 branches per cell)



3-D (1-3 branches per cell)

# Plasticity in the *Boodlea* clade

## Plasticity (variability) measure

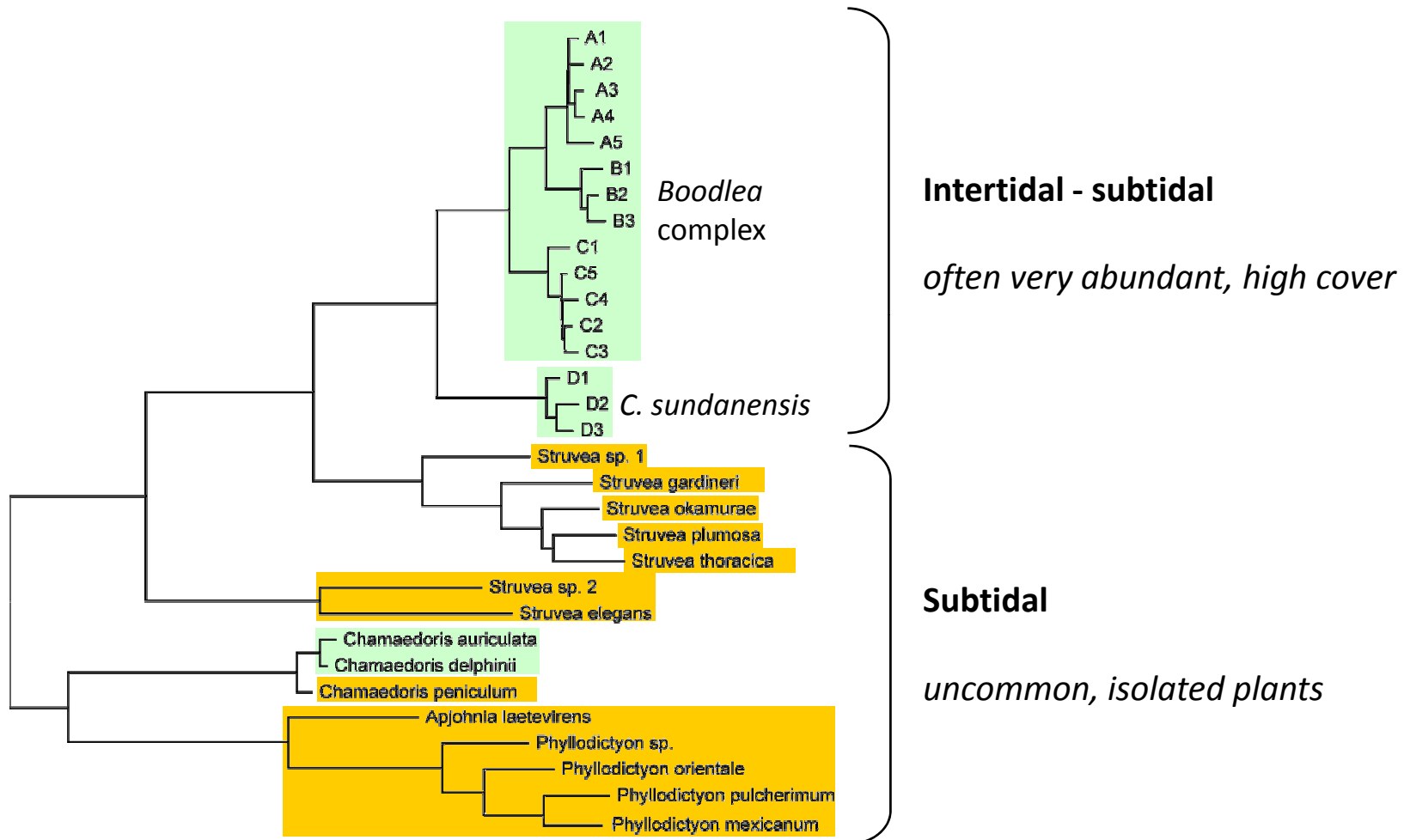


SSU + LSU + ITS rDNA, Soap alignment, BI (1 x GTR+I+Γ)



# Evolutionary success of the *Boodlea*-clade

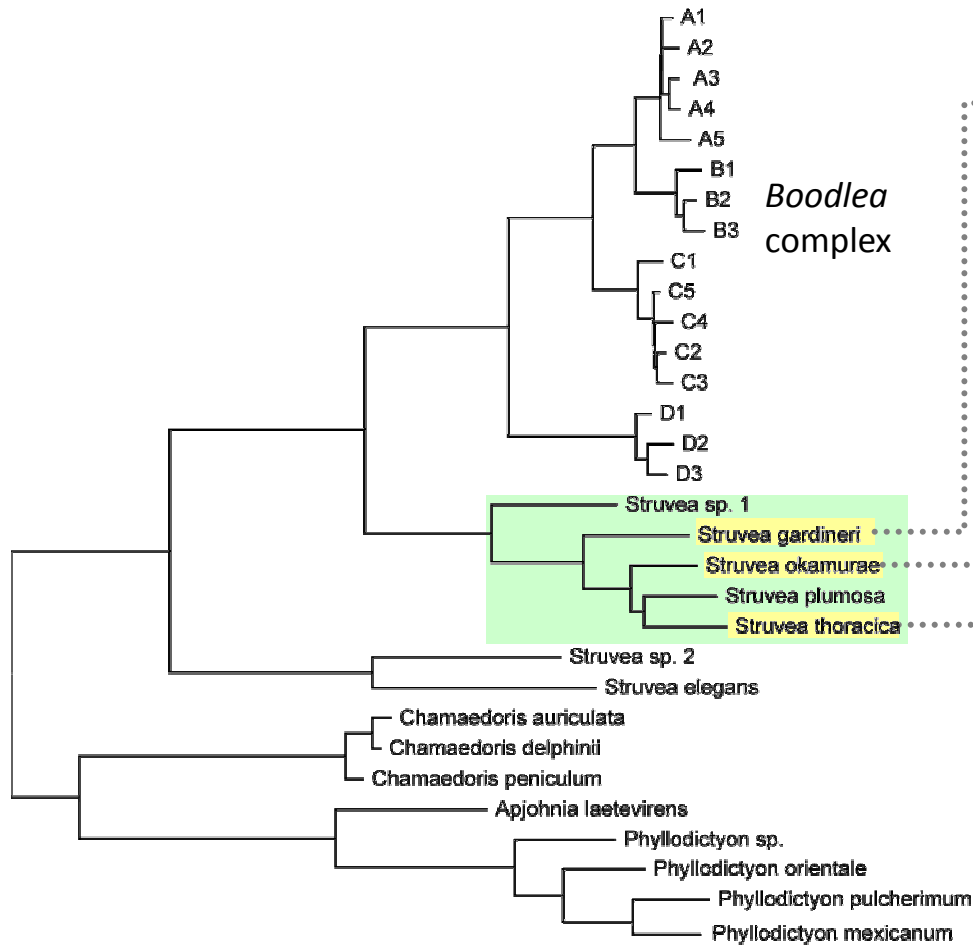
## Ecological distribution



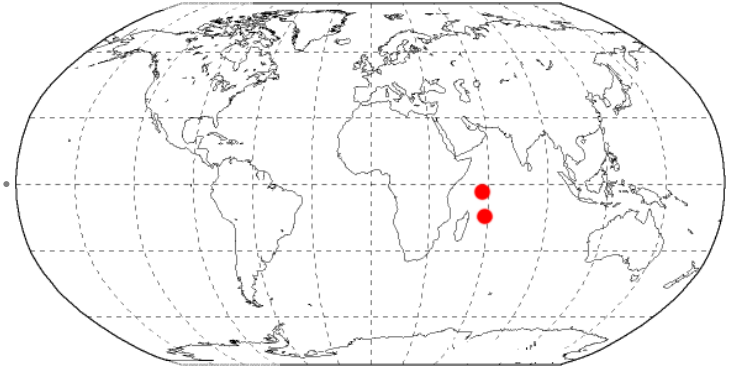
SSU + LSU + ITS rDNA, Soap alignment, BI (1 x GTR+I+Γ)

# Evolutionary success of the *Boodlea*-clade

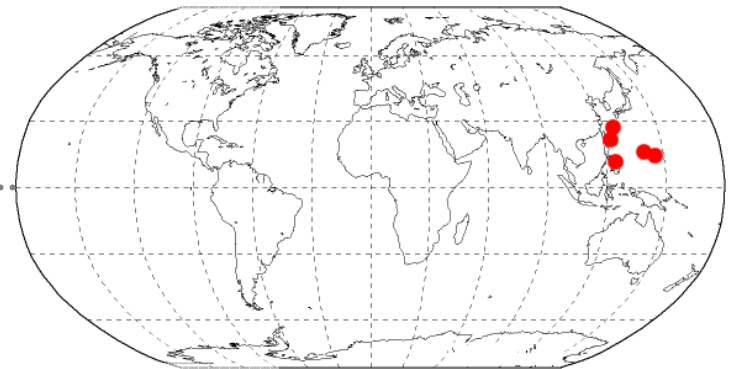
## Geographical distribution



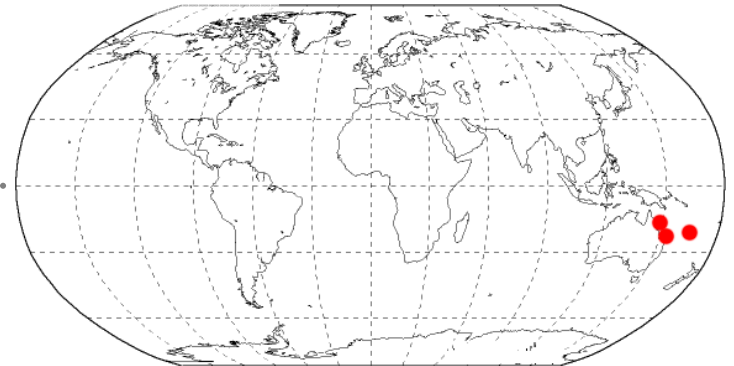
*S. gardineri*



*S. okamurae*

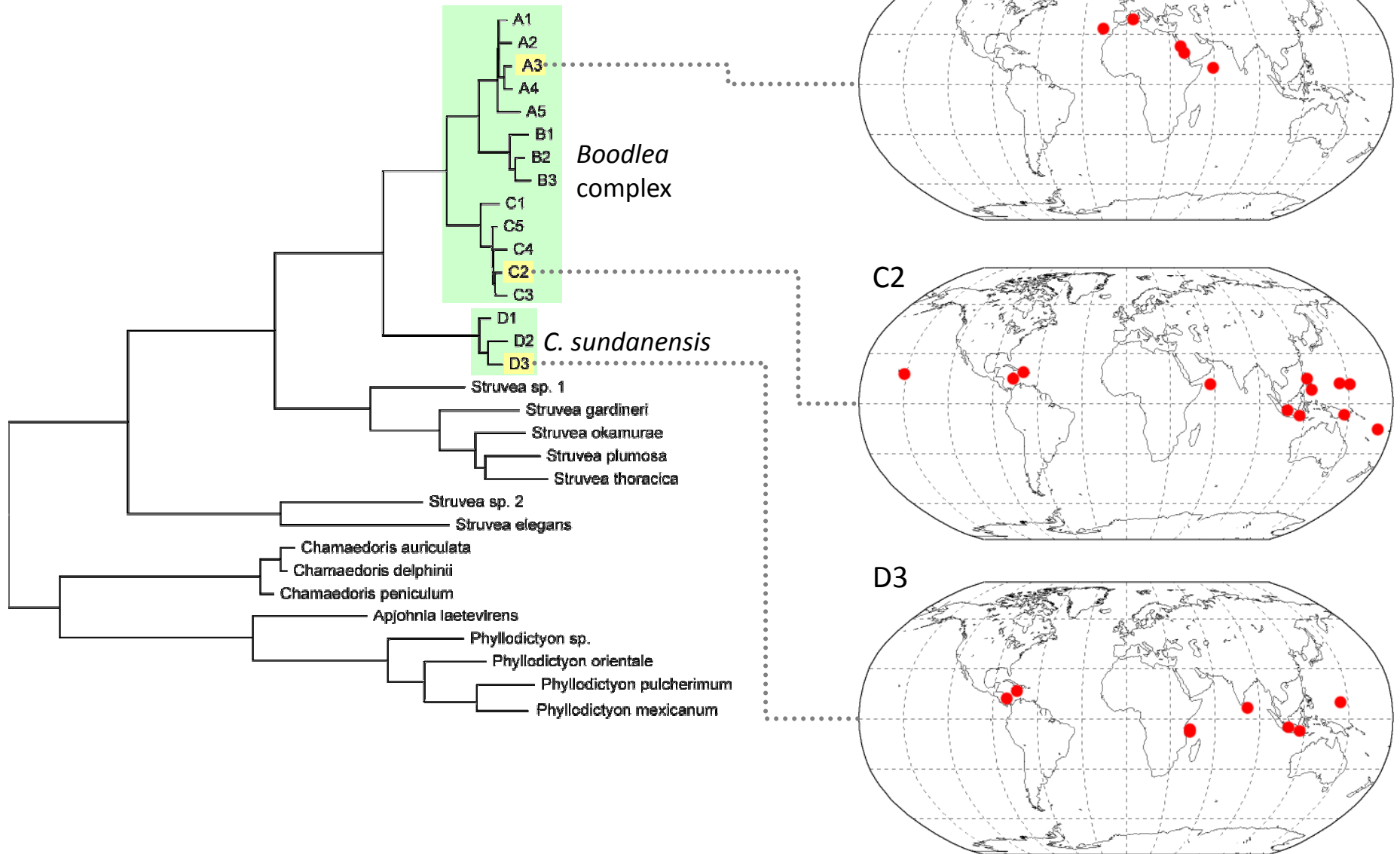


*S. thoracica*



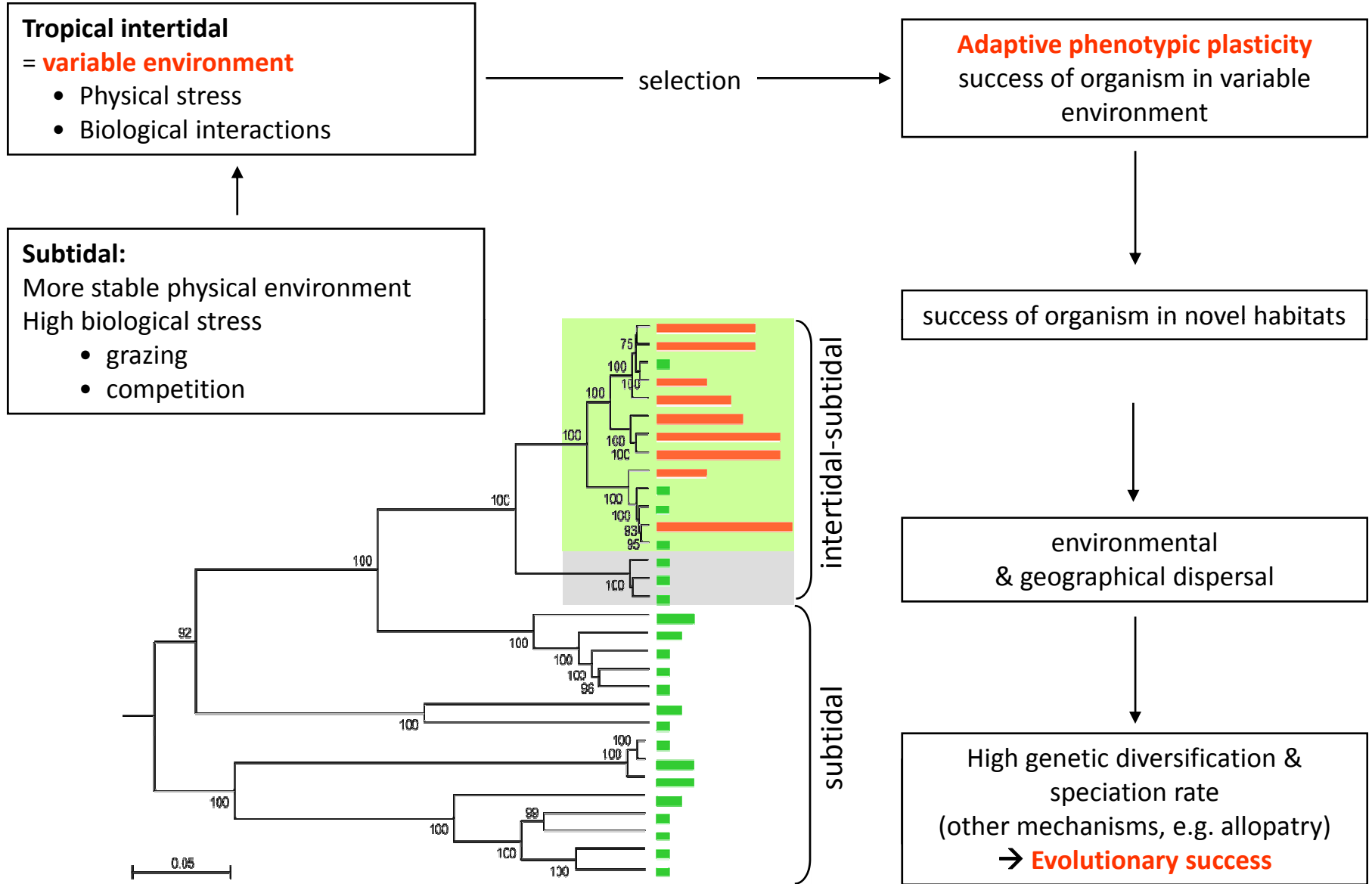
# Evolutionary success of the *Boodlea*-clade

## Geographical distribution





# Evolutionary success of the *Boodlea*-clade




# What to do....?

---

- Gross morphological features may be useful to orient to a particular clade
- Molecular and/or culture studies may be required to establish identity
  
- Be skeptical



- 
- giant, multinucleate unicells
  - simple branched siphons
  - more complex interwoven siphons form paddles, discs, brushes
  - direct, het. and iso. AoG, holocarp
  - some groups form extensive meadows
  - almost exclusively marine, primarily tropical extending to temperate

## **ORDER BRYOPSIDALES**

**Panamanian Richness (Wysor & Kooistra 2003): 52 spp. in 12 genera**



# Unicellular Gardens

(Nombre del Dios, Colón, Panamá)

*Caulerpa cupressoides*

*Penicillus*  
(Neptune's Shaving Brush)

*Halimeda incrassata*  
("Cactus weed")



# Unicellular Gardens

(Nombre del Dios, Colón, Panamá)



# Order Bryopsidales

- Individuals are giant, often highly intricate, unicells
  - Most have rapid wound response
  - In *Caulerpa* terpenoid compound serves to cross link other proteins and form plug, and
  - deter grazing
- Cross walls form when zoids are cleaved within sporangia/gametangia





# *Caulerpa fastigiata*

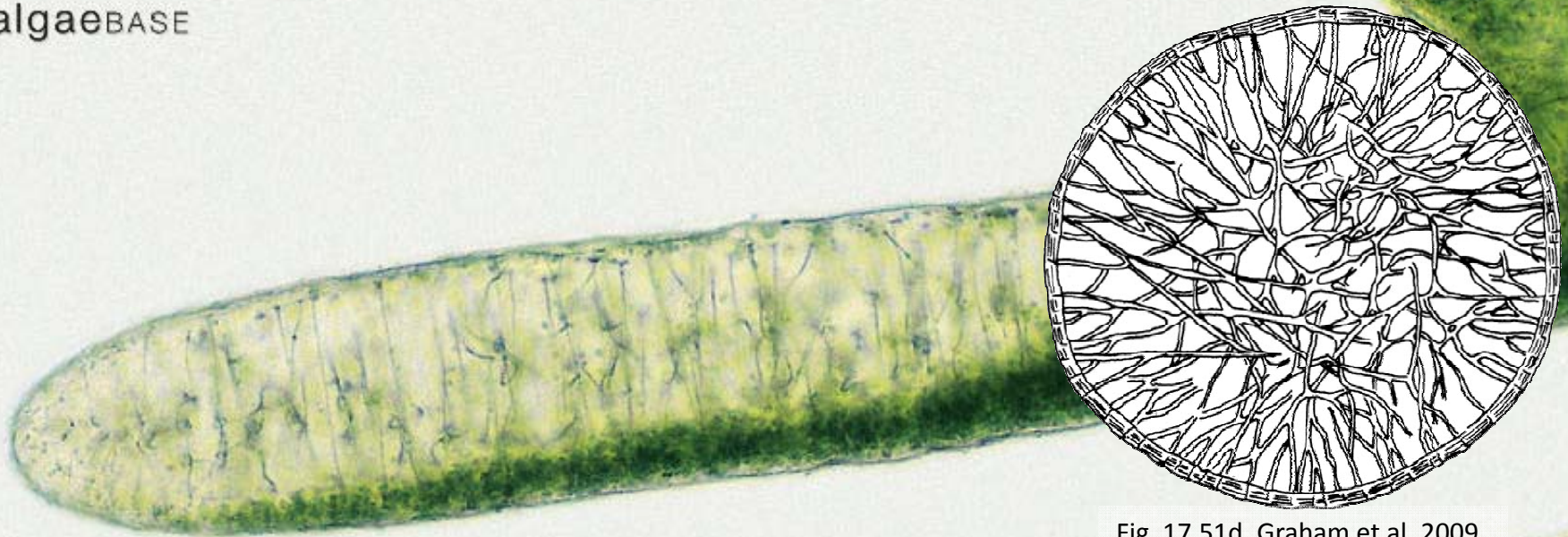


Fig. 17.51d. Graham et al. 2009.

- Trabeculae (in *Caulerpa*)
  - extensions of the cell wall that span the siphon lumen
  - may provide structural support and/or slow the release of cytoplasm if wounded

# Ulvophyceae: Bryopsidales

Uniaxial



Photo by Peter Vroom

Multiaxial

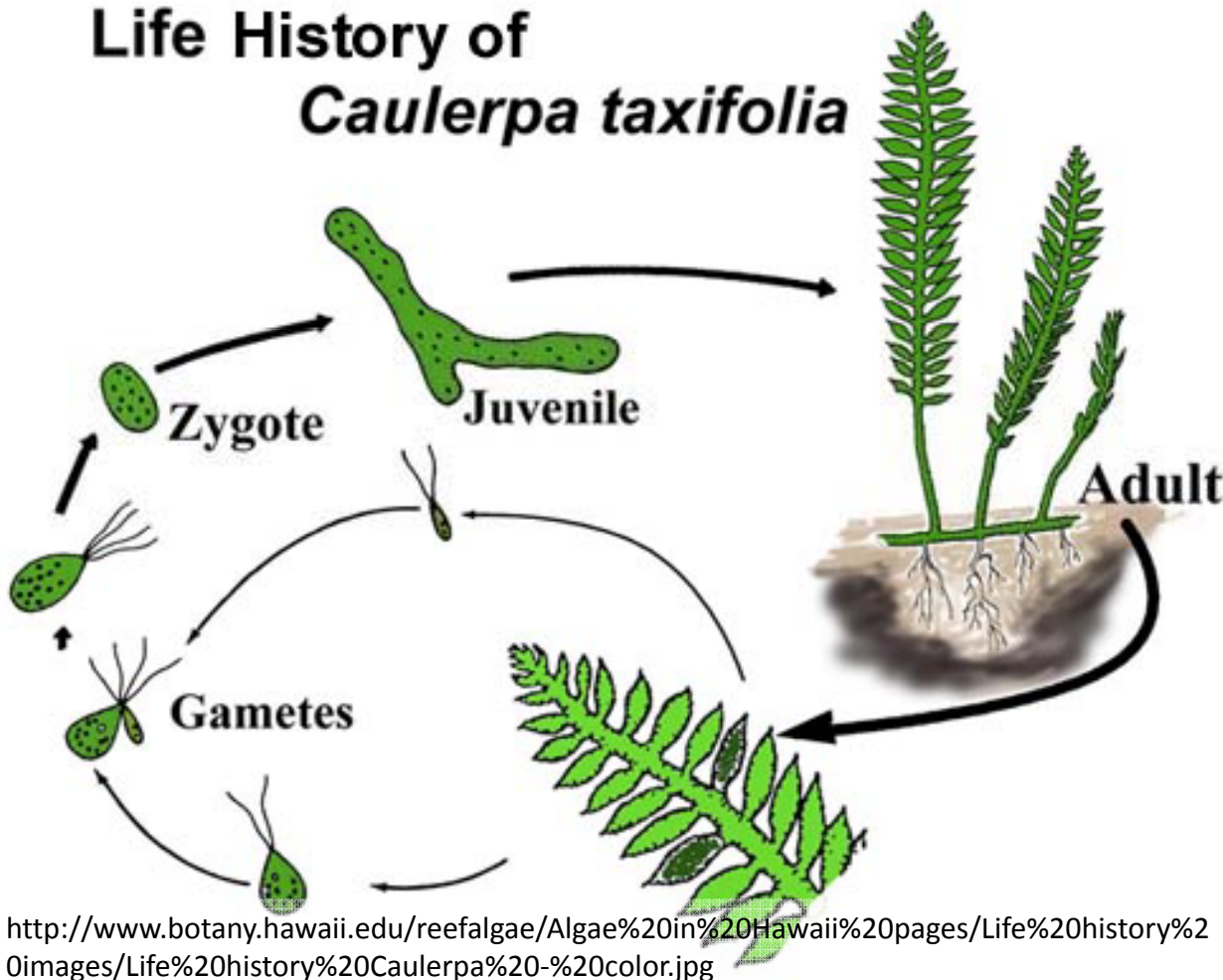


See also G&W: 17-44, 45



# Generalized LH scheme for Caulerpalean Green Algae

## Life History of *Caulerpa taxifolia*



<http://legacy.lclark.edu/~clifton/Algae.html>

Holocarp? ("whole body")

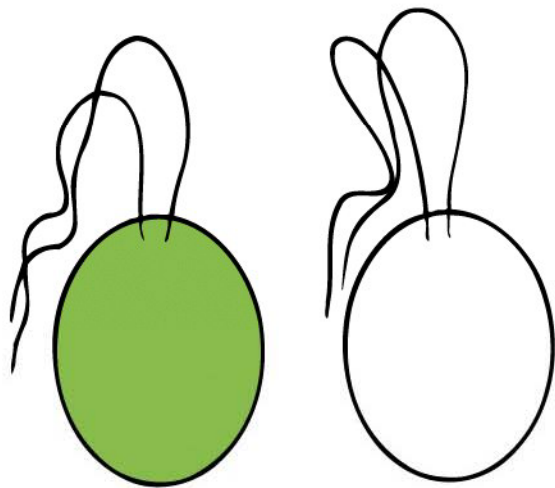
<http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/reefalgae/Algae%20in%20Hawaii%20pages/Life%20history%20images/Life%20history%20Caulerpa%20-%20color.jpg>



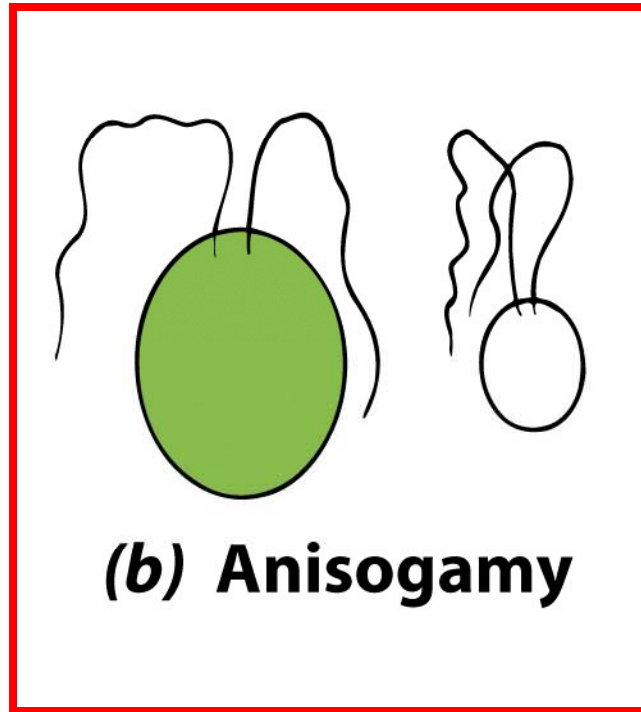
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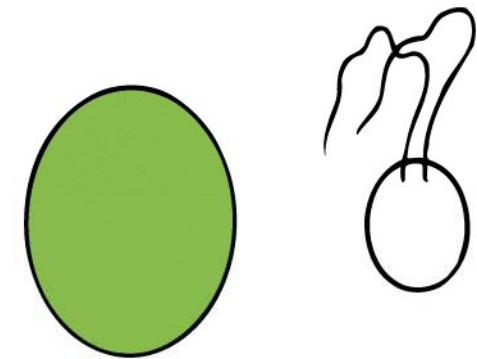
# Types of gametes



**(a) Isogamy**



**(b) Anisogamy**



**(c) Oogamy**

Figure 15-15  
*Biology of Plants, Seventh Edition*  
© 2005 W. H. Freeman and Company

Typical for Bryopsidales

- Darkened (chloroplast containing) plastid assumed to be female in most cases
  - Causes male & female thalli to take on different appearance at time of gamete production/release



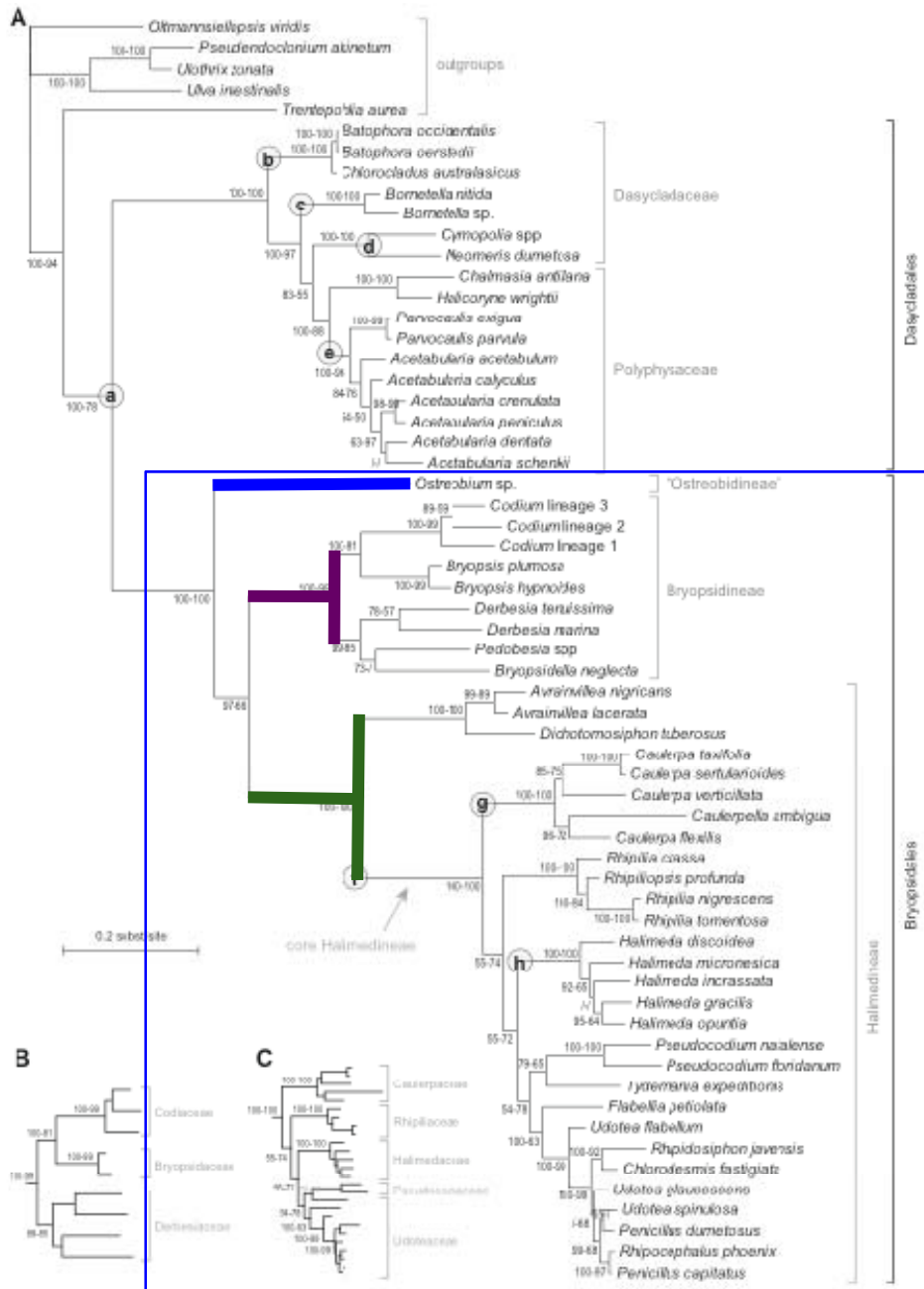
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# Bryopsidales

- 3 main lineages (tribes)
  - Ostreobidineae
    - *Ostreobium*
  - Bryopsidineae
  - Halimedineae



**Fig. 3.** Phylogenetic relationships among the siphonous green algae inferred from a five-locus DNA alignment using Bayesian analysis under a partitioned, unrooted model. (A) Majority-rule consensus phylogram of post-burnin trees. (B) Relationships among families of the Bryopsidaceae. (C) Relationships among families of the core Halimedineae. Numbers at nodes indicate statistical support, posterior probabilities before the dash and ML bootstrap proportions after (both given as percentages). Encircled letters indicate calibration points (Table 3). The scale bar only applies to (A).

# *Ostreobium*: an endolithic/zoic green alga



Brodie, J., Maggs, C. A., John, D. M. Green Seaweeds of Britain & Ireland. 2007. British Phycological Society. 242.



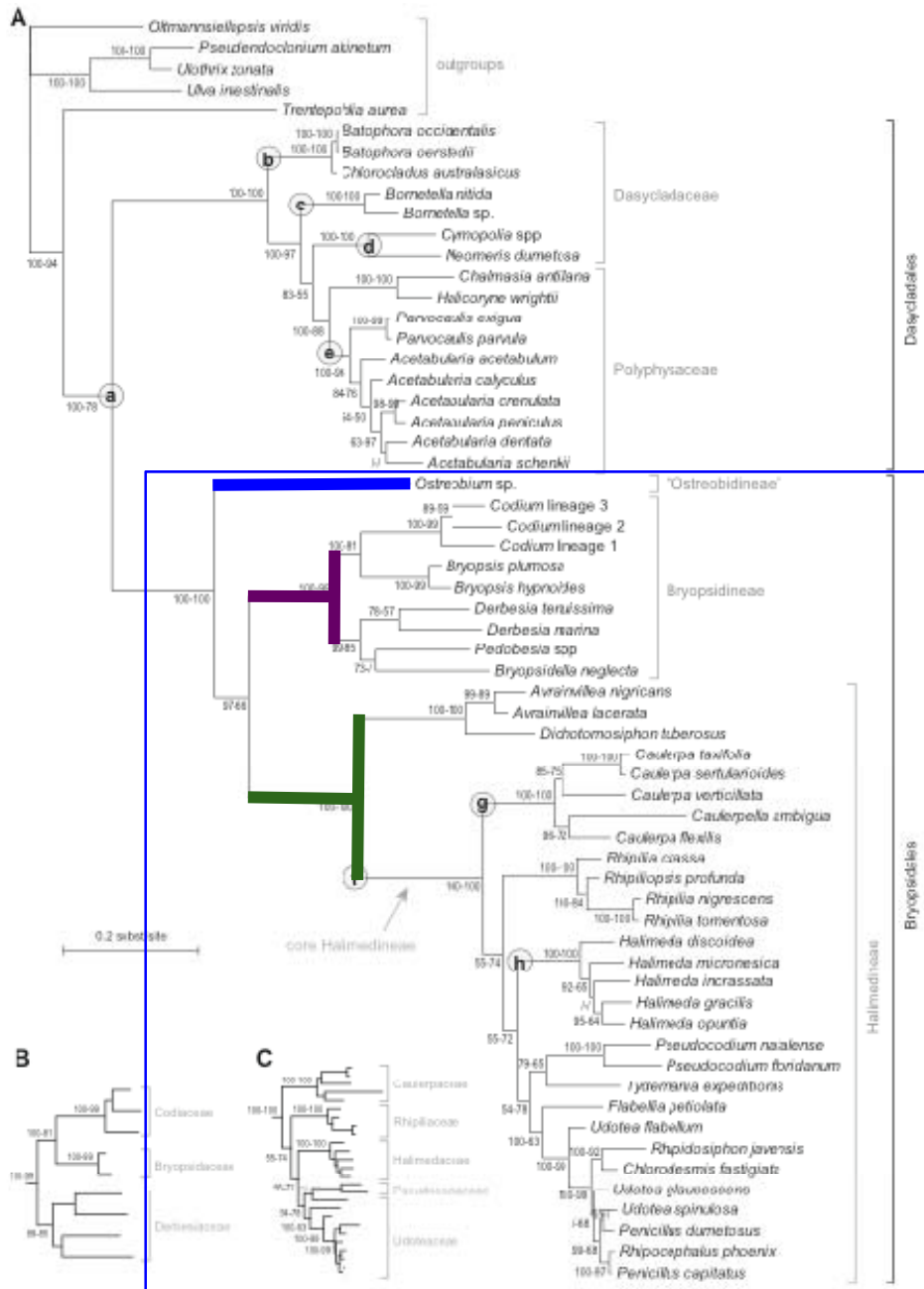


# *Ostreobium*: an endolithic/zoic green alga



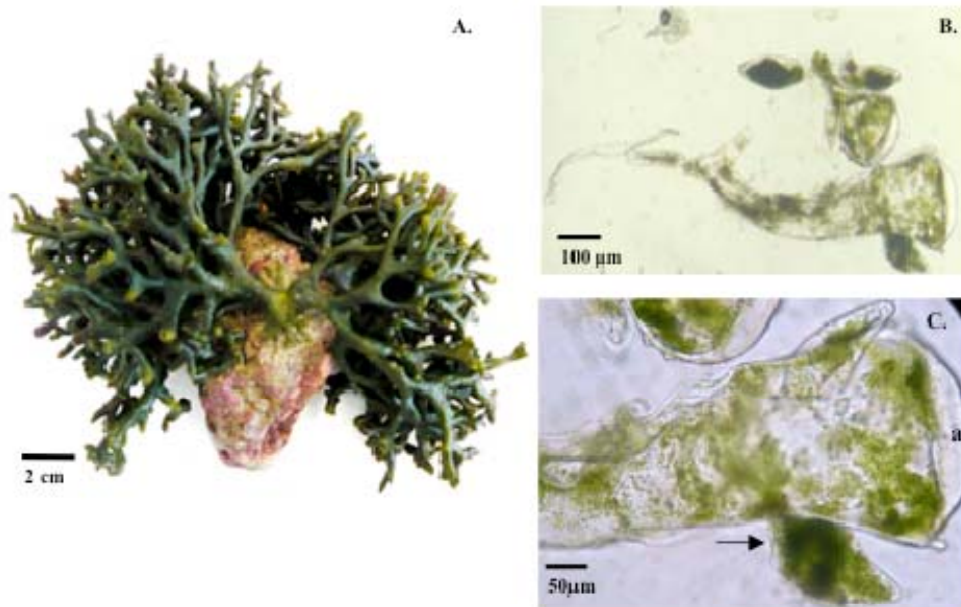
# Bryopsidales

- 3 main lineages (tribes)
  - Ostreobidineae
  - Bryopsidineae
    - Codiaceae: *Codium*
    - Bryopsidaceae: *Bryopsis*
    - Derbesiaceae: *Derbesia*
  - Halimedineae



**Fig. 3.** Phylogenetic relationships among the siphonous green algae inferred from a five-locus DNA alignment using Bayesian analysis under a partitioned, unrooted model. (A) Majority-rule consensus phylogram of post-burnin trees. (B) Relationships among families of the Bryopsidaceae. (C) Relationships among families of the core Halimedineae. Numbers at nodes indicate statistical support, posterior probabilities before the dash and ML bootstrap proportions after (both given as percentages). Encircled letters indicate calibration points (Table 3). The scale bar only applies to (A).

# Bryopsidales: Codiaceae



**Figura 1.** *Codium taylorii* P.C. Silva (Bryopsidophyceae, Bryopsidales, Codiaceae) TFP08-0403. **A.** Hábito del espécimen preservado para el herbario; **B.** Utriculos cilíndricos y ovales; **C.** Gametangios ovales desarrollándose en el ápice del utrículo (a).

## •Habitat

Sobre rocas u otras superficies duras. Pueden establecerse hasta 60 m de profundidad.

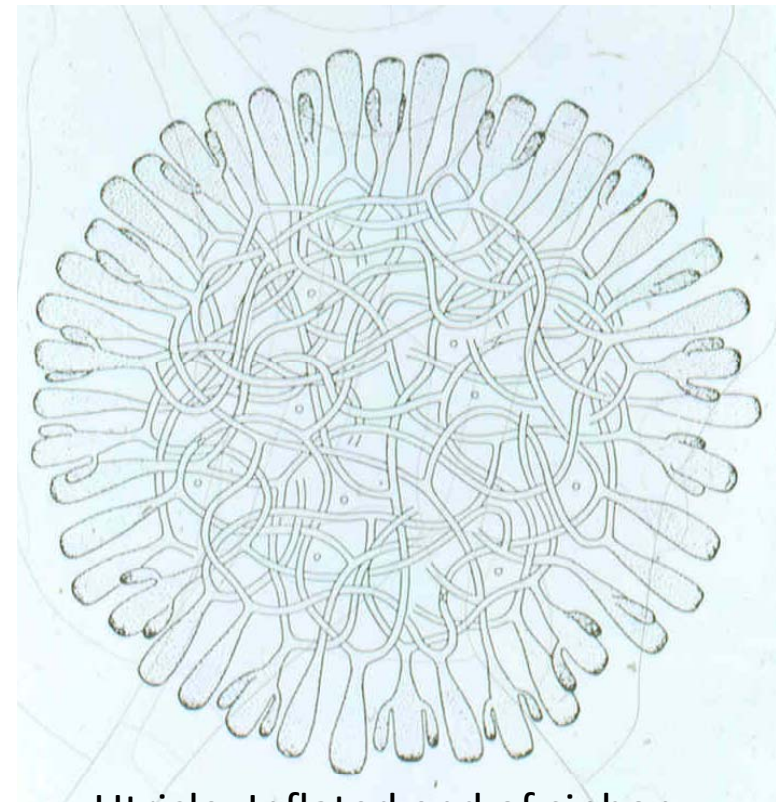
## •Distribución BdT

Wild Cane Cay (TFP08-0403, TFP08-0050).

## •Distribución mundial

Islas del Atlántico, Florida, Carolina del Norte, Belice, Islas del Caribe, Colombia, Venezuela, Brasil, Uruguay, Africa, Seychelles, Suroeste de Asia, Tailandia.

Talo erecto de color verde oscuro y consistencia firme. Ramificación subdicotómica con ángulos amplios. Ramas cilíndricas, aplanadas hacia la base y con ápices redondeados. Utriculos ovales y cilíndricos. Gametangios ovales (1-2 por utrículo) hasta 50 µm de diámetro y 730 µm de largo. El grosor del ápice del utrículo (30 µm) la diferencia claramente de *C. decorticatum* (4-8 µm).



- Utricle: Inflated end of siphon
- The shape, size and arrangement of utricles are characteristic of different species in *Codium* and other members of the Bryopsidales



# Codium

(NE Isla Naranjo, Colón, Panamá)







*Codium intertextum*

(Mimbi Timbi, Collabora Panamá)



# *Codium bursa*

[www.algaebase.org](http://www.algaebase.org)

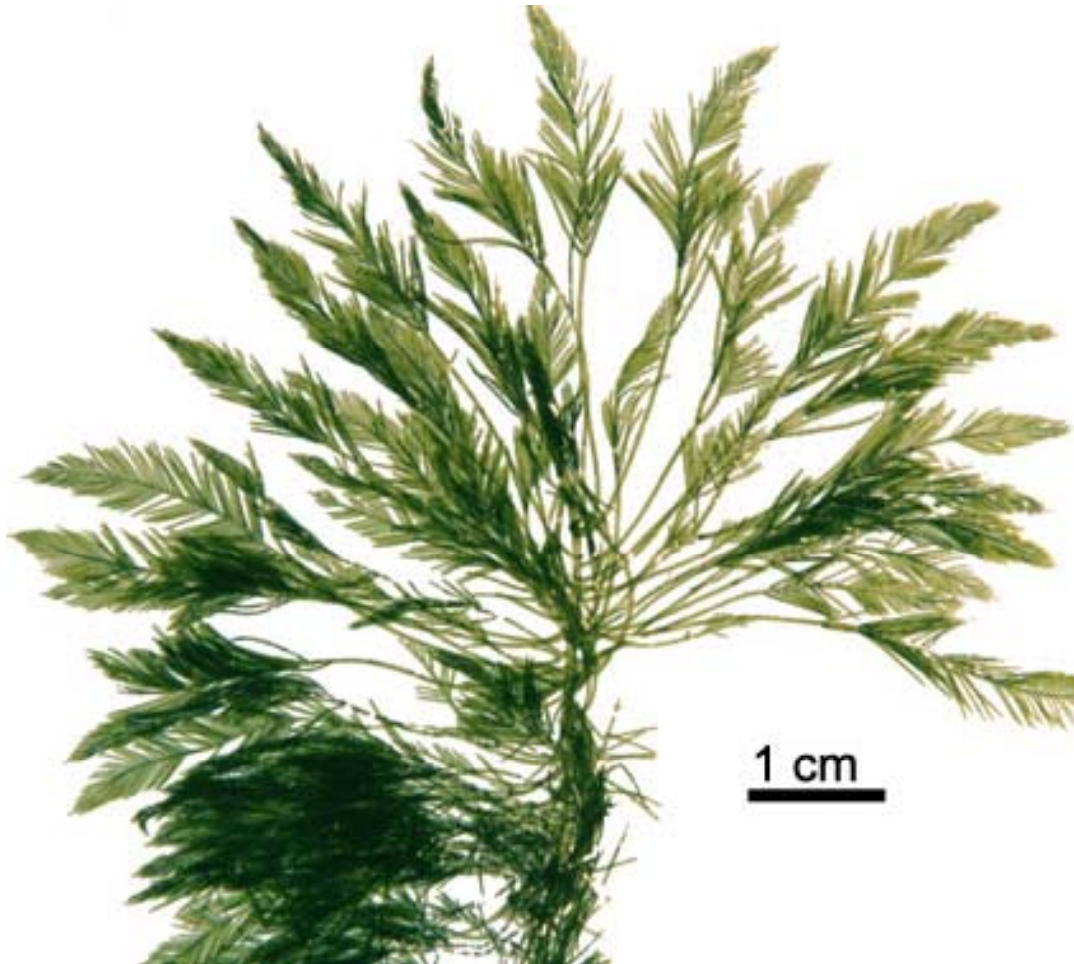




# *Codium latum*



# Ulvophyceae: Caulerpales: *Bryopsis*



*Bryopsis* pinnules





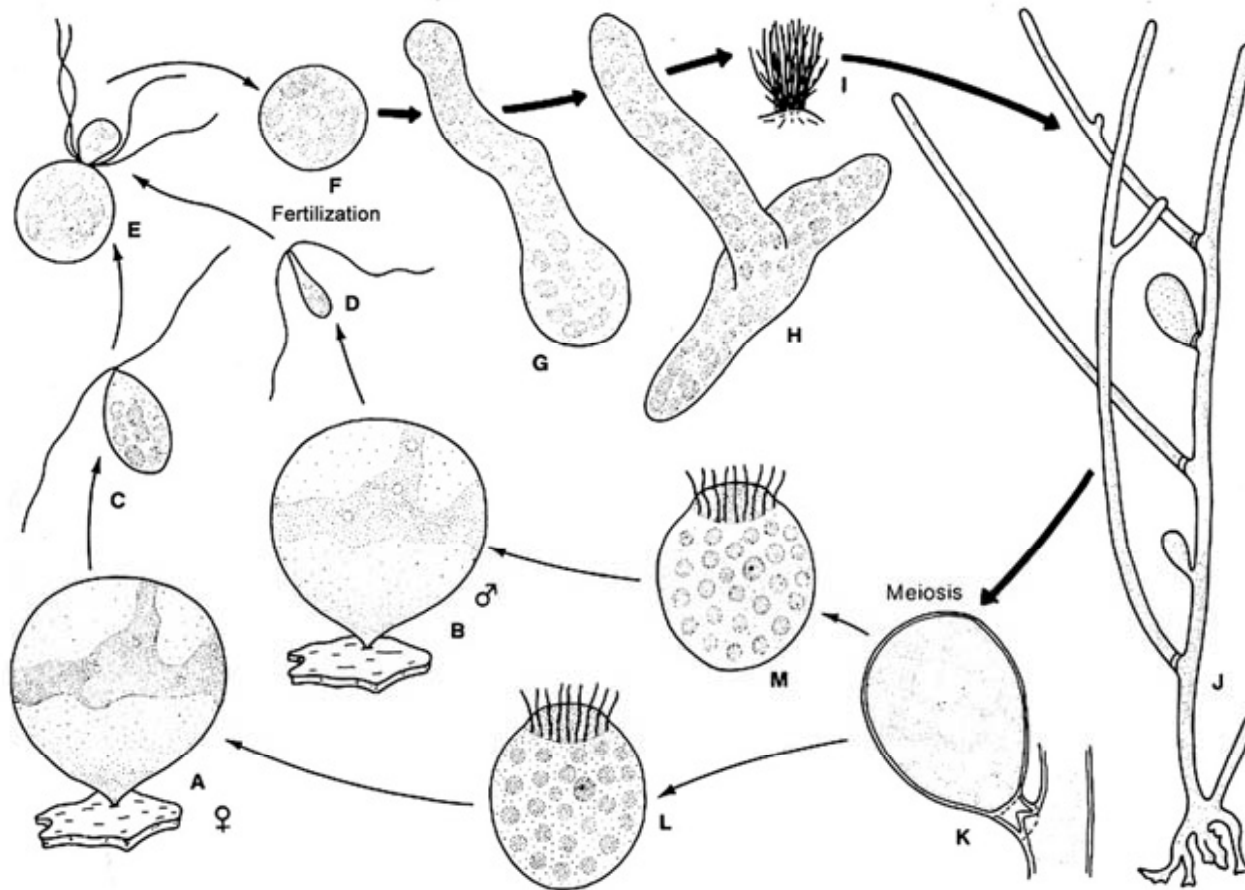
# *Bryopsis* sp.

(wreck, protected side West Limon Bay Breakwater, Colón, Panamá)





# Ulvophyceae: Caulerpales: *Derbesia*



*Halicystis*-stage of *Derbesia*]

**Figure 7-23** Life history of *Derbesia* sp. (Codiales) with alternation of heteromorphic phases (*thin lines* indicate haploid phase, *thick lines* indicate diploid phase). **A, B**, globose, coenocytic stage: **A**, mature female gametophyte; **B**, mature male gametophyte. **C, D**, biflagellated gametes (produced by mitosis). **E**, fusion of anisogametes (fertilization). **F**, zygote. **G, H**, coenocytic juvenile sporophyte. **I**, habit of mature sporophyte. **J**, mature coenocytic sporophyte with two meiosporangia. **K**, mature meiosporangium. **L, M**, multiflagellated zoospores (produced by meiosis).

Scagel et al. 1984



# *Pseudobryopsis?*

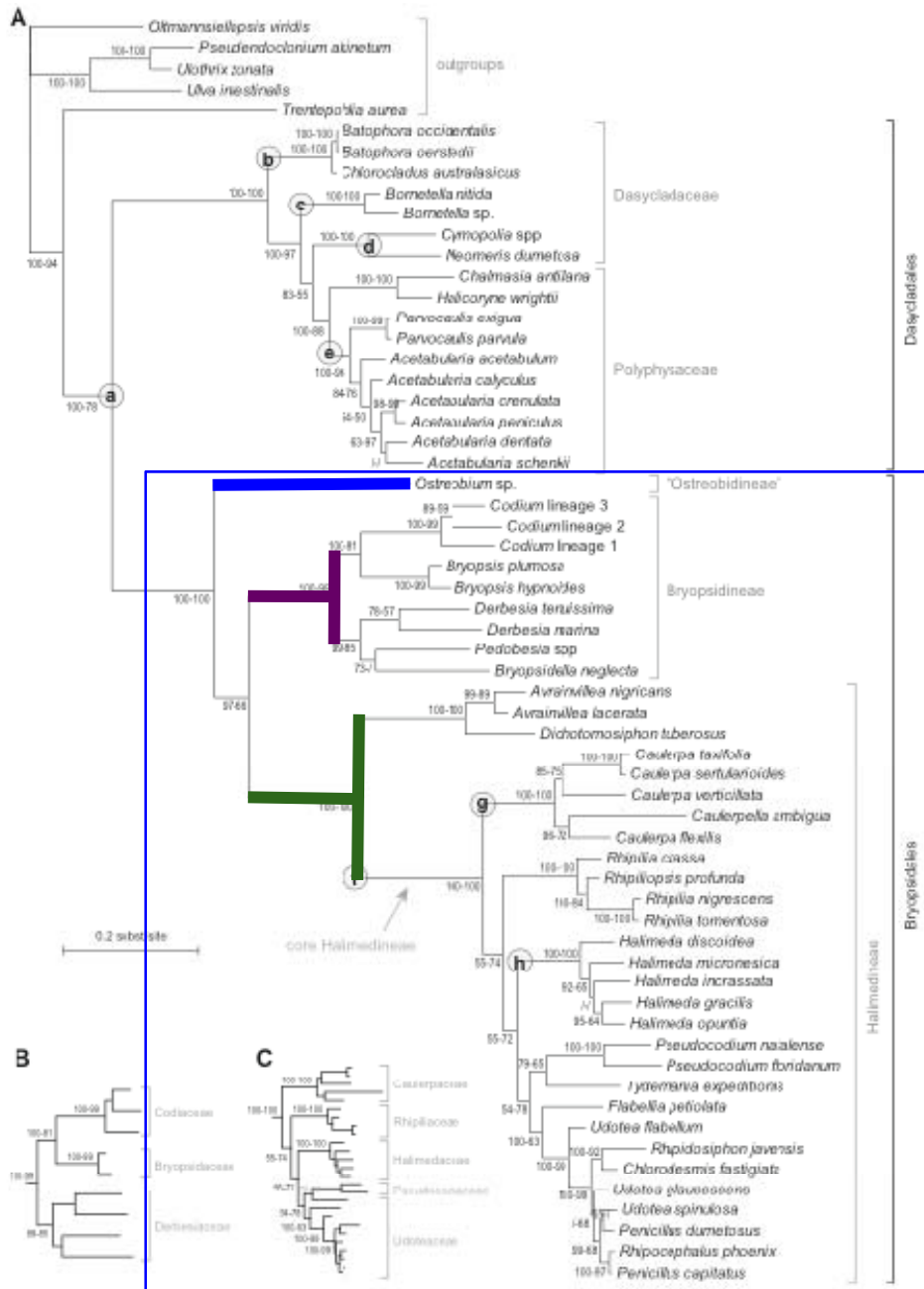
(Mimbi Timbi, BdT, Panamá)





# Bryopsidales

- 3 main lineages (tribes)
  - Ostreobidineae
  - Bryopsidineae
  - Halimedineae



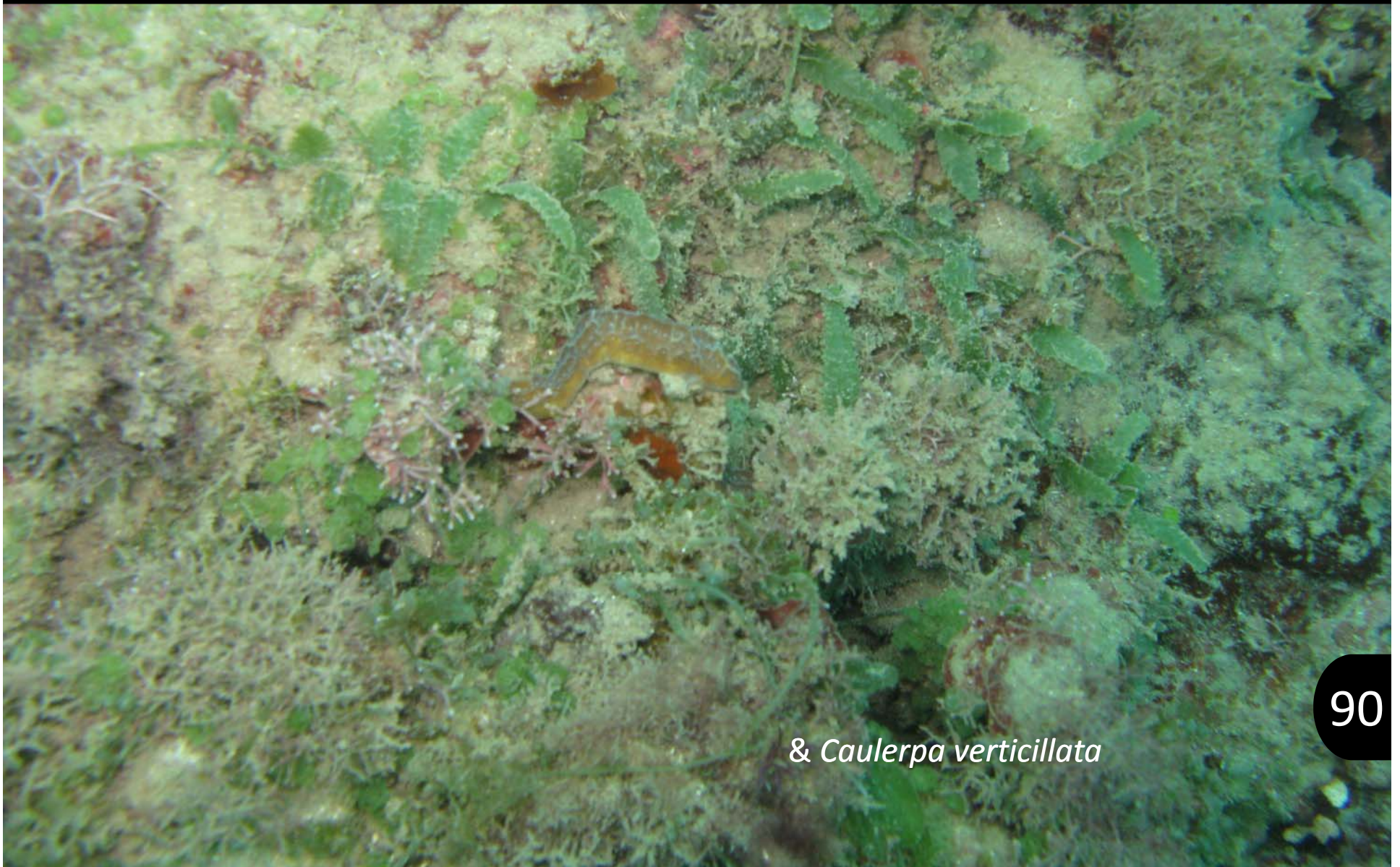
**Fig. 3.** Phylogenetic relationships among the siphonous green algae inferred from a five-locus DNA alignment using Bayesian analysis under a partitioned, unrooted model. (A) Majority-rule consensus phylogram of post-burnin trees. (B) Relationships among families of the Bryopsidaceae. (C) Relationships among families of the core Halimedineae. Numbers at nodes indicate statistical support, posterior probabilities before the dash and ML bootstrap proportions after (both given as percentages). Encircled letters indicate calibration points (Table 3). The scale bar only applies to (A).





# *Caulerpa mexicana*

(Galeta, Colón, Panamá)



& *Caulerpa verticillata*



# *Caulerpa macrophysa*

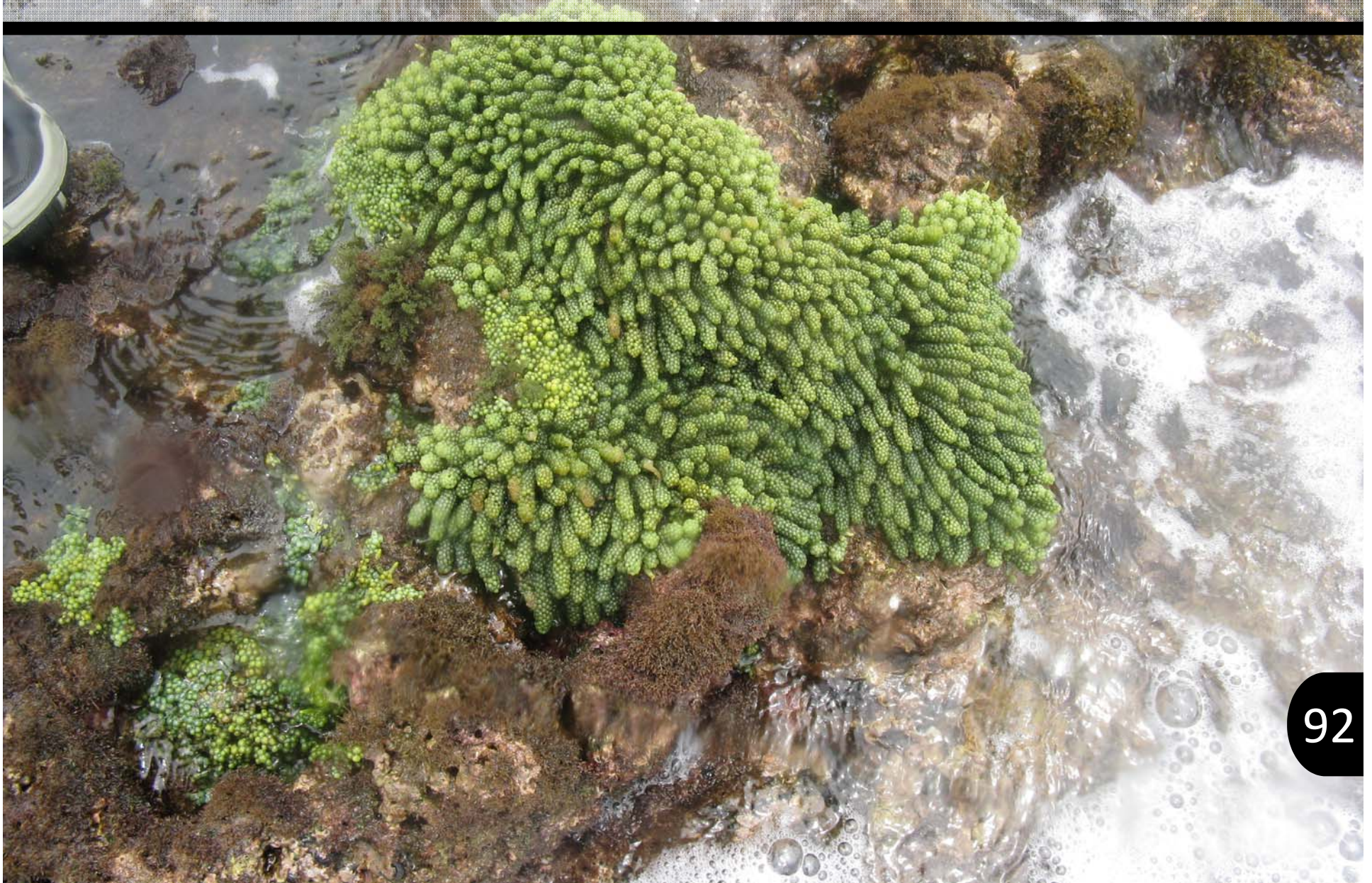
(Mimbi Timbi, BdT, Panamá)





# *Caulerpa racemosa*

(Galeta, Colón, Panamá)





# *Caulerpa racemosa*

(Galeta, Colón, Panamá)





# *Caulerpa taxifolia* invasion



# Bryopsidales

- 3 main lineages (tribes)
  - Ostreobidineae
  - Bryopsidineae
  - Halimedineae
- Dichotomsiphonaceae: *Avrainvillea*
- Caulerpaceae: *Caulerpa*
- Halimedaceae: *Halimeda*
- Udoteaceae: *Udotea/Penicillus*

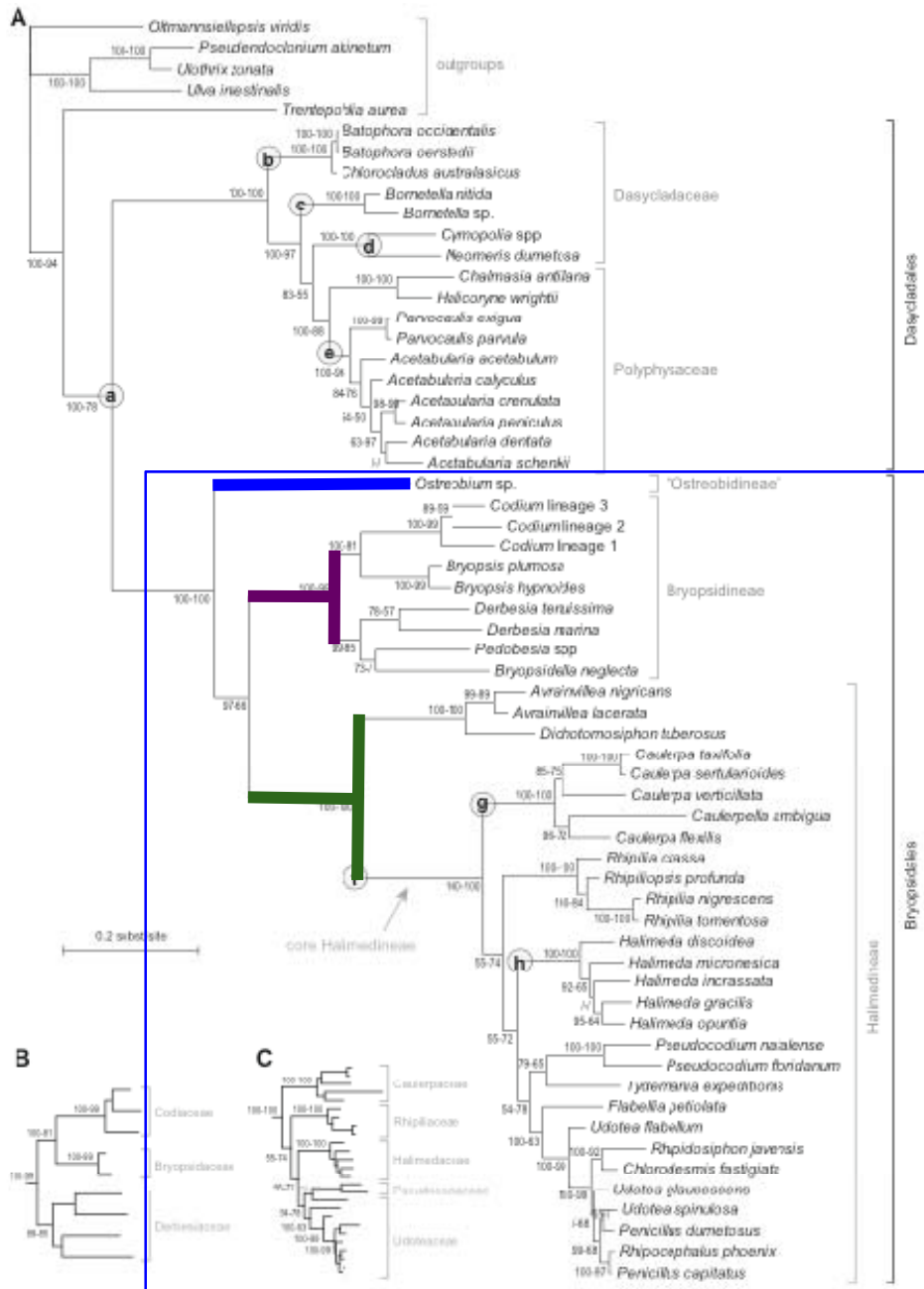


Fig. 3. Phylogenetic relationships among the siphonous green algae inferred from a five-locus DNA alignment using Bayesian analysis under a partitioned, unrooted model. (A) Majority-rule consensus phylogram of post-burnin trees. (B) Relationships among families of the Bryopsidineae. (C) Relationships among families of the core Halimedineae. Numbers at nodes indicate statistical support, posterior probabilities before the dash and ML bootstrap proportions after (both given as percentages). Encircled letters indicate calibration points (Table 3). The scale bar only applies to (A).



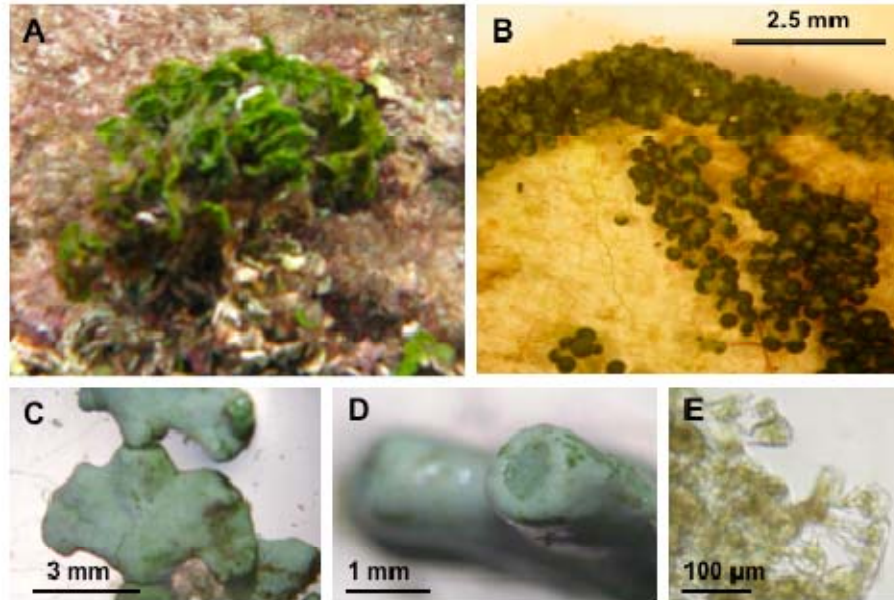


# *Halimeda tuna*

(NE Isla Naranjo, Colón, Panamá)







***Halimeda opuntia*** (L.) J.V. Lamour. (Ulvophyceae, Bryopsidales, Halimedaceae).  
 (A) Specimen growing on coral fragments (Wild Cane Key, Bocas del Toro, Panama),  
 (B) Close-up of reproductive thallus with gametangia, (C) Lobed calcified segment,  
 (D) Close-up of apical segment, (E) Photosynthetic surface utricles.

**•Habitat**

Found growing in sandy substratum near the edge of patch reefs.

**•BdT Distribution**

Wild Cane Key, Tervi Bight, STRI Bay, Flat Rock Beach.

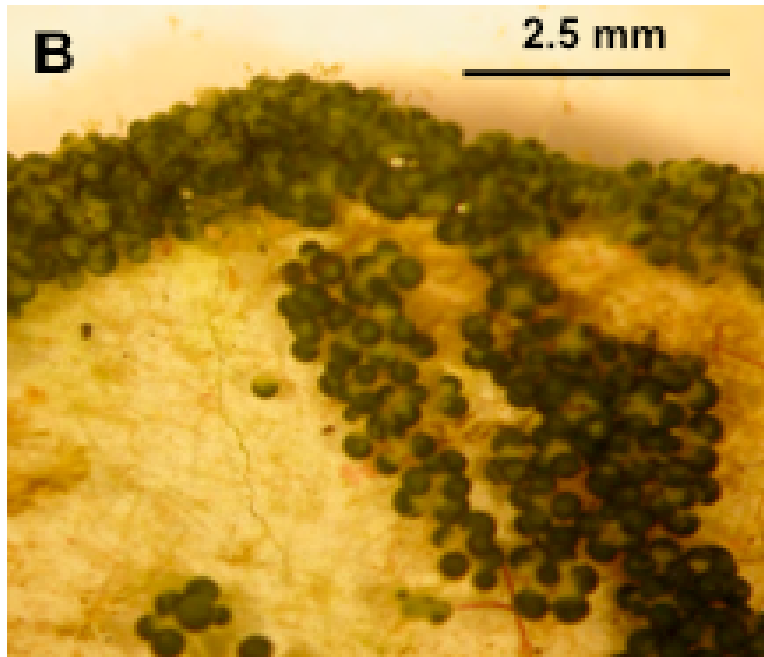
**•Worldwide Distribution**

North America (Florida, Isla Guadalupe, Mexico), Central America (Belize, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, Islas Revillagegados), Caribbean Islands (Bahamas, Barbados, Caicos, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Hispaniola, Jamaica, Lesser Antilles, Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago, Virgin Islands), South America (Aves, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela), Africa, Europe, Indian Ocean Islands, Asia, Australia & New Guinea, Pacific Islands.

Segments flattened (or contorted), generally greater than 5 mm. Branchlets random, generating thallus of multiple planes, forming dense clumps or mounds (versus *Halimeda opuntis* f. *trifoba* is similar but thallus segments are organized in loose clumps or scattered chains).

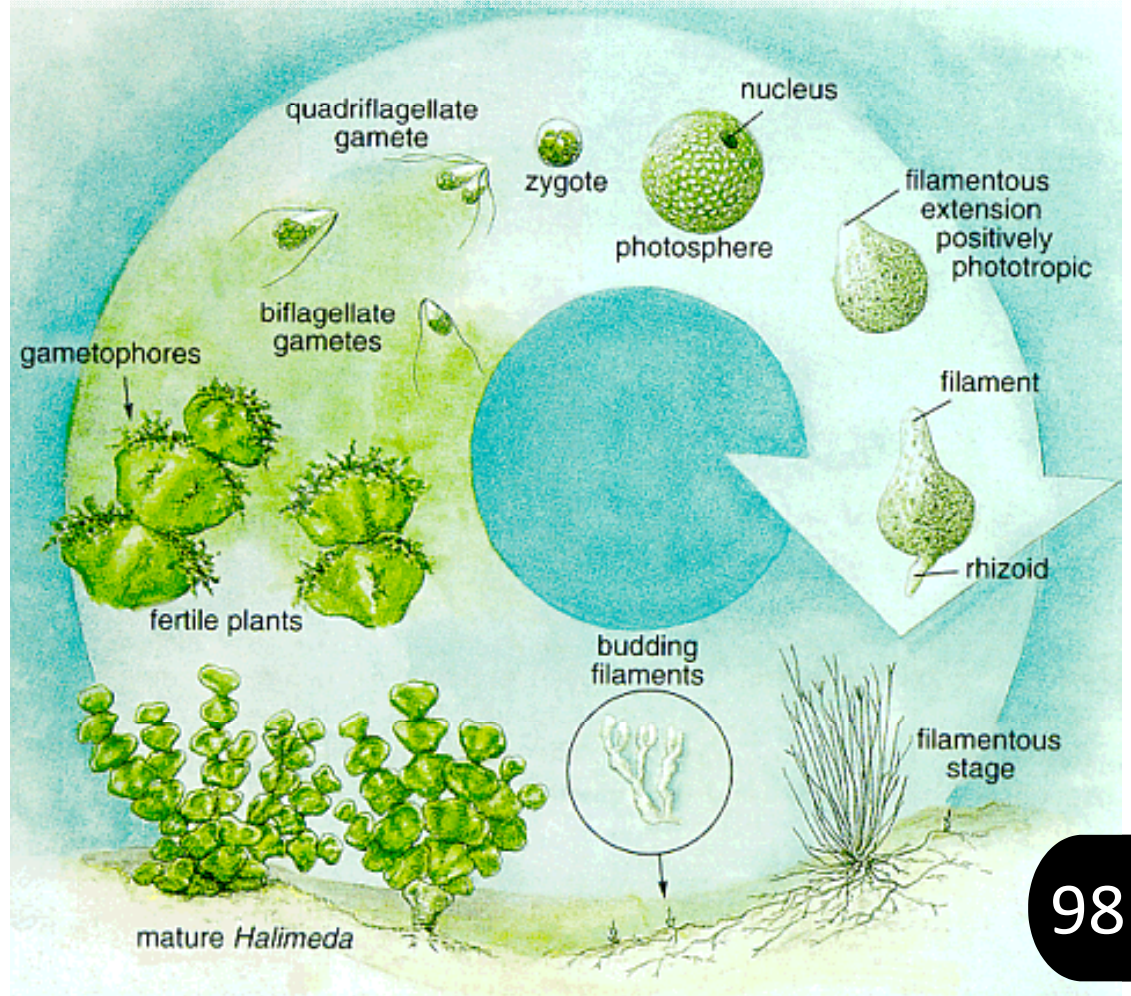


# Ulvophyceae: Caulerpales: *Halimeda*



*Halimeda* (among other calcifying organisms) is an important contributor to carbonate sediments (such as tropical sands).

<http://www.aims.gov.au/pages/reflib/bigbank/images/bb22a.gif>

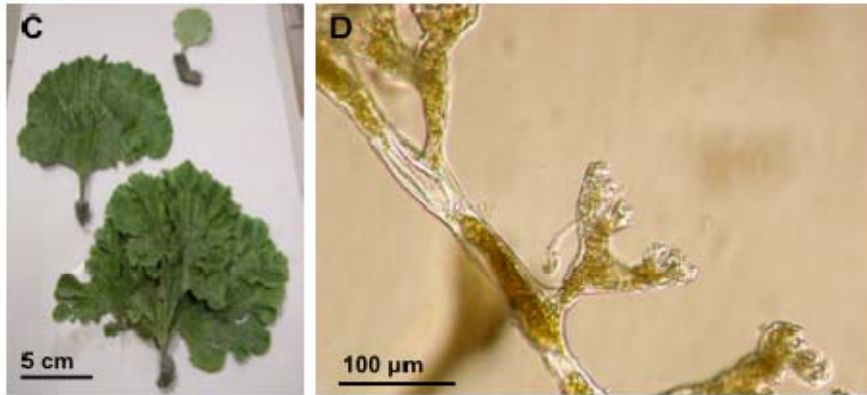
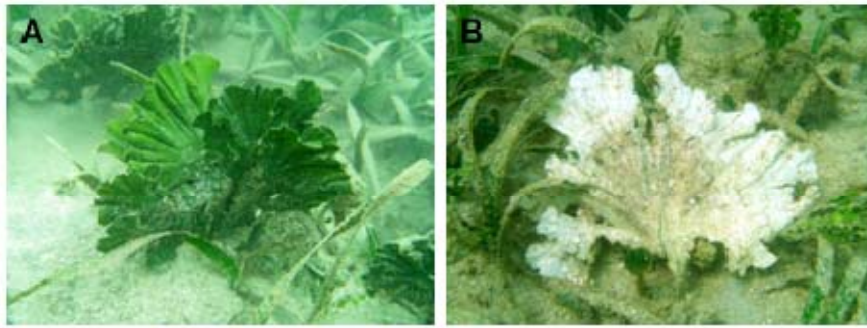


# Reproduction in *Halimeda incrassata*

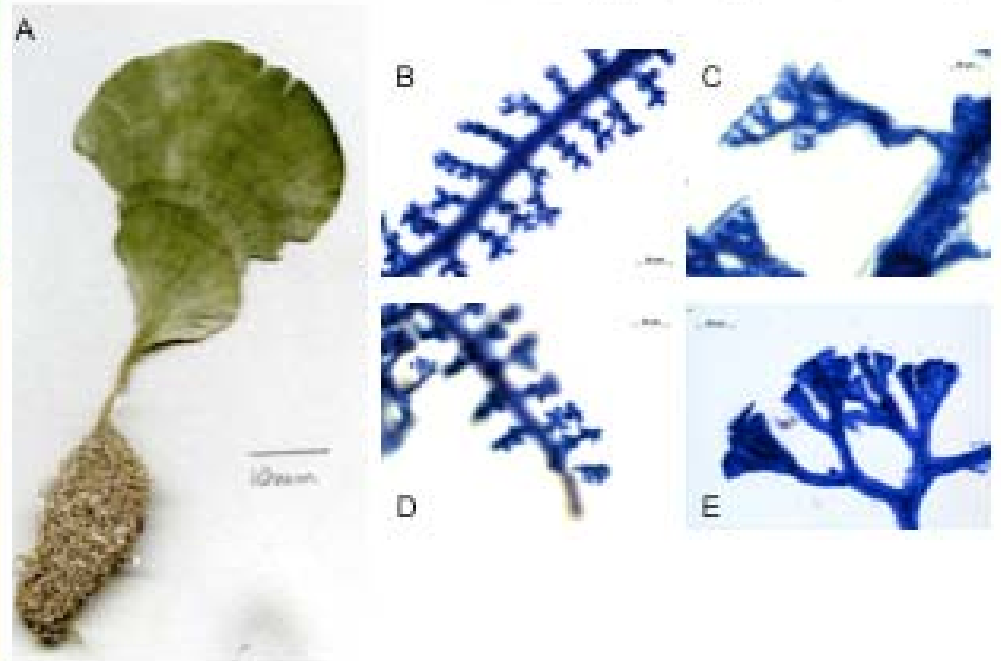
(Bastimento-Solarte Channel, BdT, Panamá)







***Udotea dixonii* D. Littler & M. Littler** (Ulvoephyceae, Bryopsidales, Udoteaceae)



***Udotea flabellum*** (J. Ellis & Sol.) J.V. Lamour. (Ulvoephyceae, Bryopsidales, Udoteaceae). Specimen growing in sandy substratum in seagrass bed (Wild Cane Key, Bocas del Toro, Panama), (B) Holocarpic individual having shed gametes, (C) Specimens for herbarium collection (TFP08-0262), (D) Blade siphon with lateral appendages.

**Habitat**

Found growing in sandy substratum within seagrass bed (*Thalassia*).

**BdT Distribution**

Wild Cane Cay, Isla Carenero, Bastimento Solarte Channel.

**Worldwide Distribution**

Atlantic Islands (Bermuda, Cape Verde Islands), North America (Florida, Mexico, North Carolina), Central America (Belize, Panama), Caribbean Islands (Bahamas, Barbados, Caicos Islands, Cayman Islands, Hispaniola, Cuba, Jamaica, Lesser Antilles, Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tabago, Virgin Islands), South America (Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela), Africa, Indian Ocean Islands, Asia (Southwest, Southeast), Australia & New Zealand.

Thallus fan-shaped (often lobed), undivided to highly divided, thick, leathery, moderately calcified, solitary. Blade siphons with lateral appendages. Lateral blade appendages random, sparsely scattered, forming continuous cortex.

TFP08-0442, 446; WNC2008-044, 046. (A) Herbarium specimen (WNC2008-046) showing thallus habit. (B) Blade siphon with dermis, oppositely arranged, lateral appendages. (C) Blade lateral appendage showing truncated apices. (D) Stipe siphon with oppositely arranged lateral appendages. (E) Stipe lateral appendages showing dichotomously branched bluntly rounded apices.

**Description:** *Udotea dixonii* has a lightly calcified green-yellow upright blade that occurs individually or in groups arising from a single 2-3 mm wide stipe that is anchored to a fibrous rhizoidal mass [A]. The fan-shaped blades grow to 21 cm tall and are generally longer than wide, occasionally lobed and have distinct concentric zones. Blade is composed of numerous siphons that are covered in oppositely arranged appendages that interlock with adjacent appendages, forming a smooth continuous blade cortex [B]. Branching blade lateral appendages terminate in densely packed flattened projections, a character normally associated with *U. dotyi* [C]. The stipe is similarly composed of oppositely-arranged interlocking lateral appendages [D]. Stipe lateral appendages are dichotomously branched and terminate in short finger-like apices [E].

**Remarks:** This species is similar in appearance to *U. dotyi*, which has a wider than long blade and is normally not lobed. Overall blade shape rather than blade lateral appendage morphology was given priority for the identification of the illustrated specimens.

**Habitat:** Grows on sandy substratum.

**Bocas del Toro Distribution:** Mimbi Timbi, Isla Colón

**Worldwide Distribution:** Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean.

**Representative Specimens:** TFP08-0442, 446; WNC2008-044, 046.

**References**

Dawes CJ & Mathieson AC (2006) *The Seaweeds of Florida*. University Press of Florida, Gainesville.

Littler DS & Littler MM (2000) *Caribbean Reef Plants*. Offshore Graphics, Inc., Washington, DC.

Prepared by Samantha Schmitt & Nadya Mamoozadeh



# *Udotea* sp.

(Bastimentos-Solarte Channel, Panamá)





# Ulvophyceae: Caulerpales: *Penicillus*



<http://legacy.lclark.edu/~clifton/Algae.html>

Pre-reproductive    Post-reproductive    Currently reproductive

<http://www.lclark.edu/~clifton/Udf1stream.mov>

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# *Udotea cyathiformis*





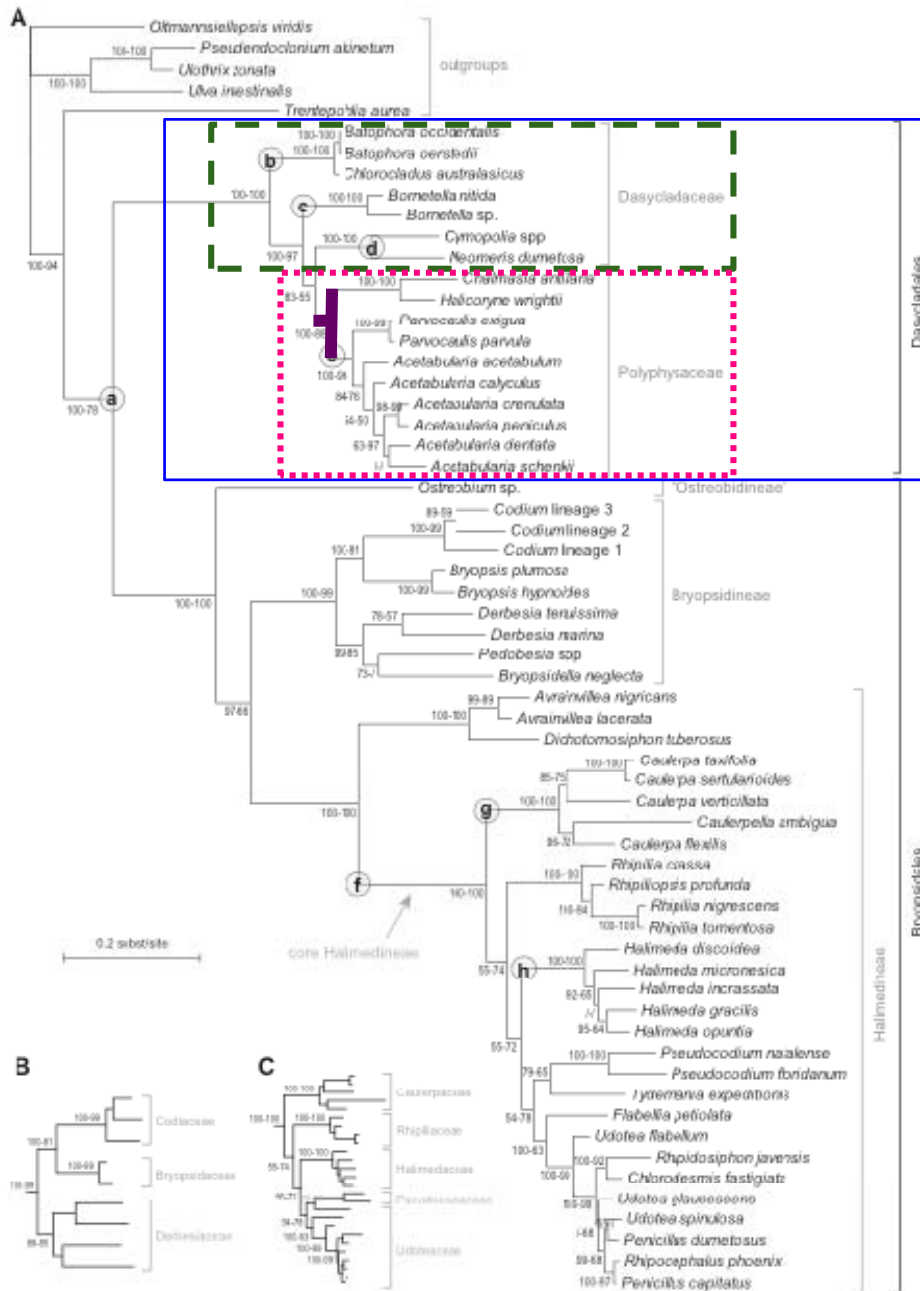
- 
- giant unicells
  - central axis surrounded by whorls of branchlets, or terminating in cap
  - uni- & multinucleate
  - direct life history
  - exclusively marine

## **ORDER DASYCLADALES**

**Panamanian Richness (Wysor & Kooistra 2003): 4 spp. in 2 genera**

# Dasycladales

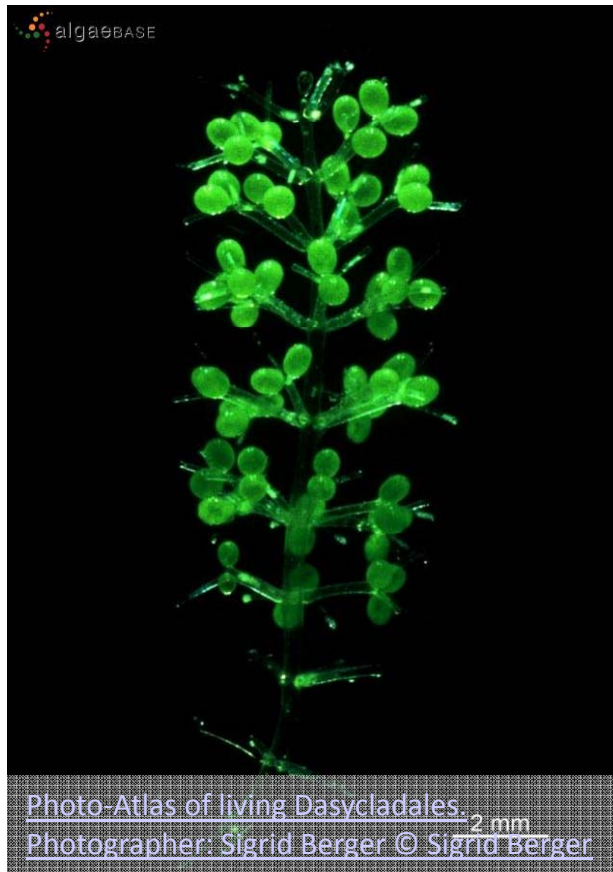
- 2 main lineages (Families)
  - Paraphyletic Dasycladaceae
    - Species with branched fertile whorls
  - Monophyletic Polyphysaceae
    - Fertile whorls of unbranched broad lateral chambers



**Fig. 3.** Phylogenetic relationships among the siphonous green algae inferred from a five-locus DNA alignment using Bayesian analysis under a partitioned, unrooted model. (A) Majority-rule consensus phylogram of post-burnin trees. (B) Relationships among families of the Bryopsidaceae. (C) Relationships among families of the core Halimedaaceae. Numbers at nodes indicate statistical support, posterior probabilities before the dash and ML bootstrap proportions after (both given as percentages). Encircled letters indicate calibration points (Table 3). The scale bar only applies to (A).



# Dasycladaceae





# Polyphysaceae

The image shows a microscopic view of the Polyphysaceae family. It features several parallel, slightly curved rows of small, circular, brownish structures. These structures are arranged in a regular, repeating pattern, characteristic of fertile whorls in unbranched lateral chambers. The background is a light, textured surface.

- Fertile whorls of unbranched broad lateral chambers



# *Neomeris annulata* (Dasycladaceae)

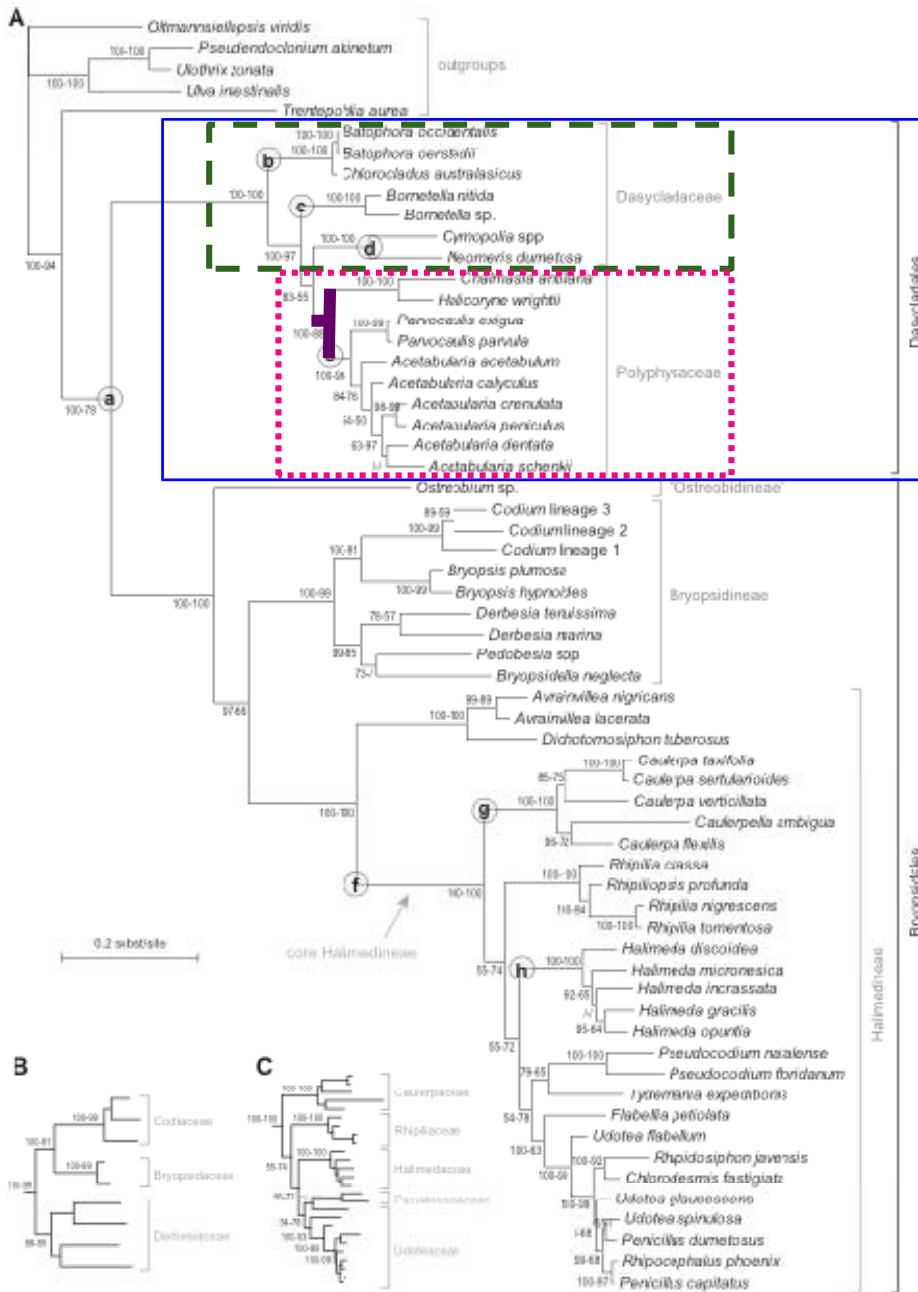


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# Dasycladales

- 2 main lineages (Families)
  - Paraphyletic Dasycladaceae
  - Monophyletic Polyphysaceae

- *Acetabularia*
- *Parvocaulis* (most of the former *Polyphysa* spp.)
  - Exhibit stalk corrugation during cap development
  - Mucous-like velum over developing cap



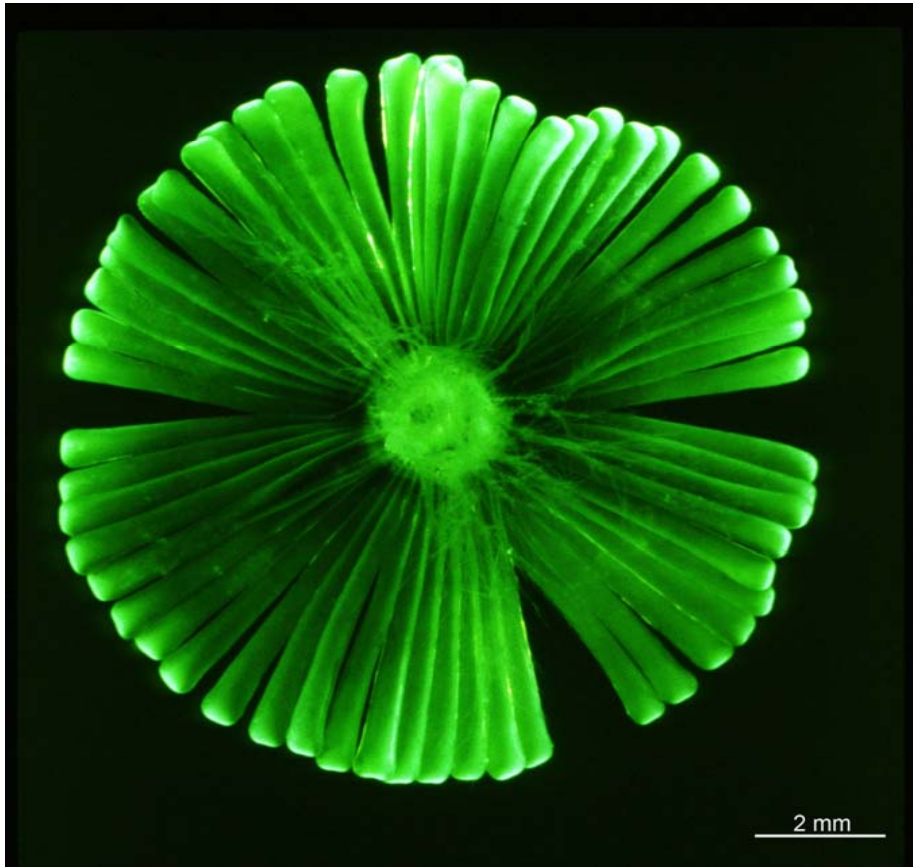
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- 
- The morphology of the reproductive cap is a species characteristic and has been used as a marker for genetic and developmental studies.
  - The following show the variation in morphology for various species. In all cases the cap cytoplasm is compartmentalized into “cysts” or gametangia.



# *Acetabularia*



Species Characters:

# Rays, Ray fusion, # Gametophores/ray, Gametophores in lime matrix or not

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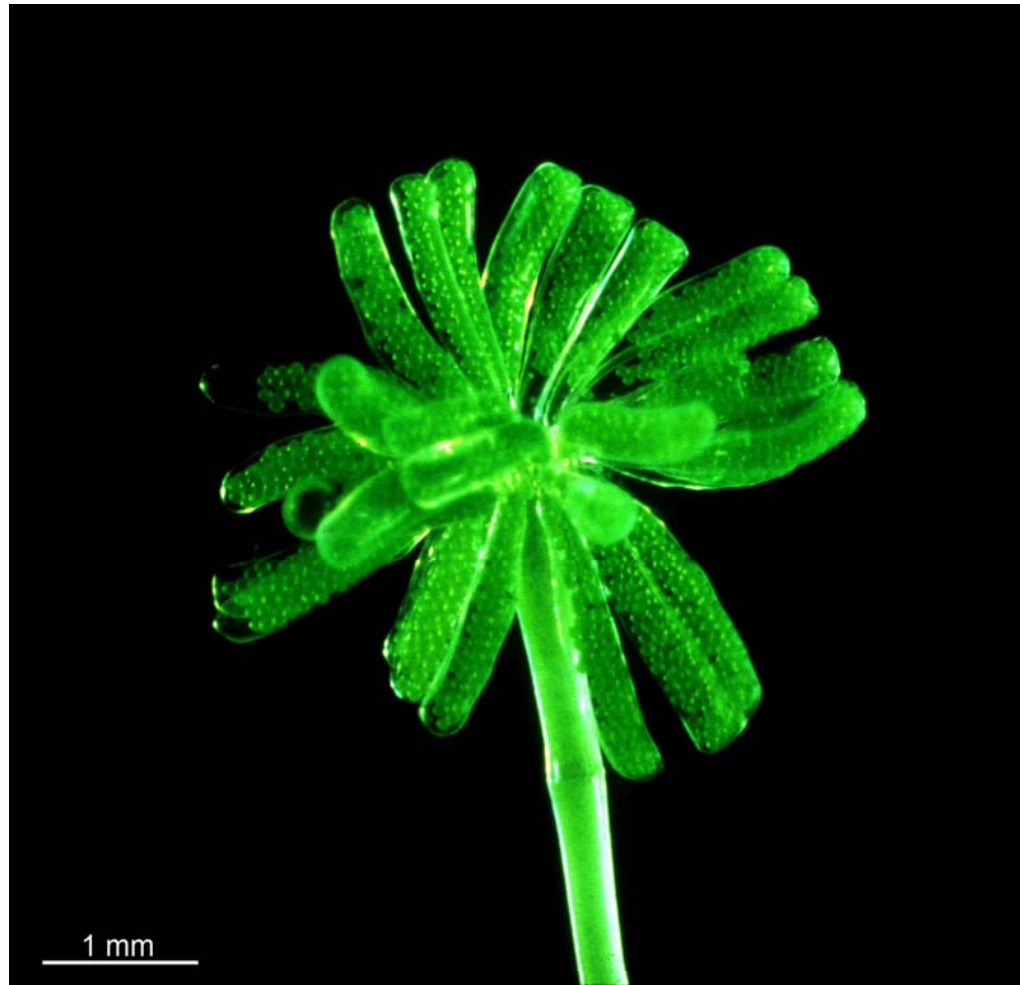
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# *Parvocaulis*

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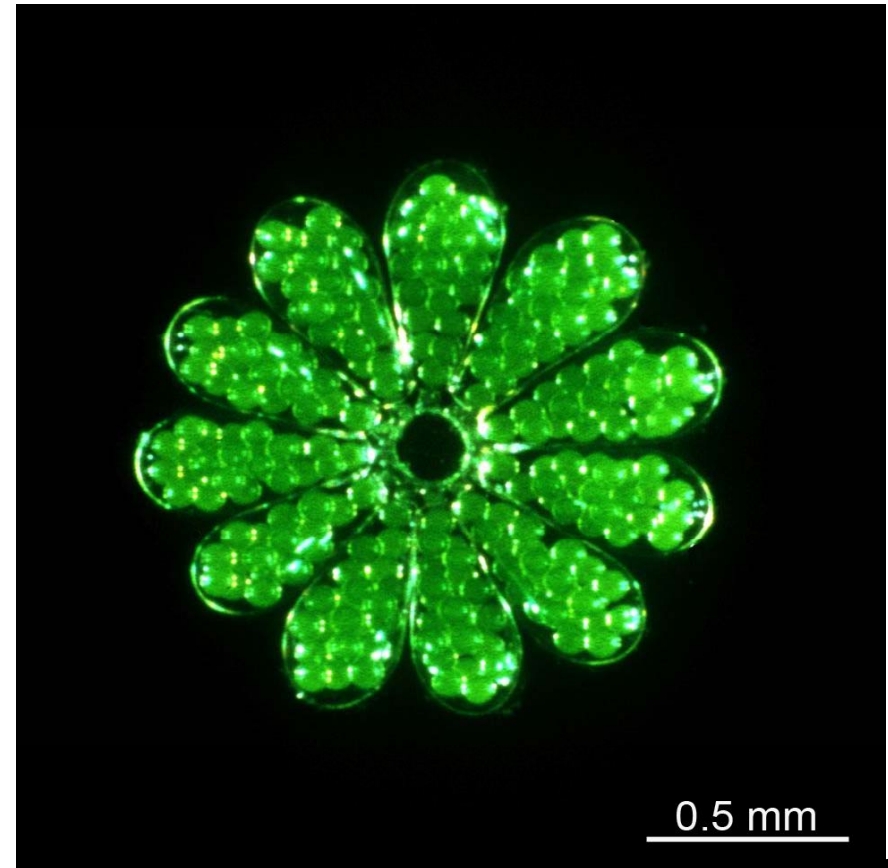
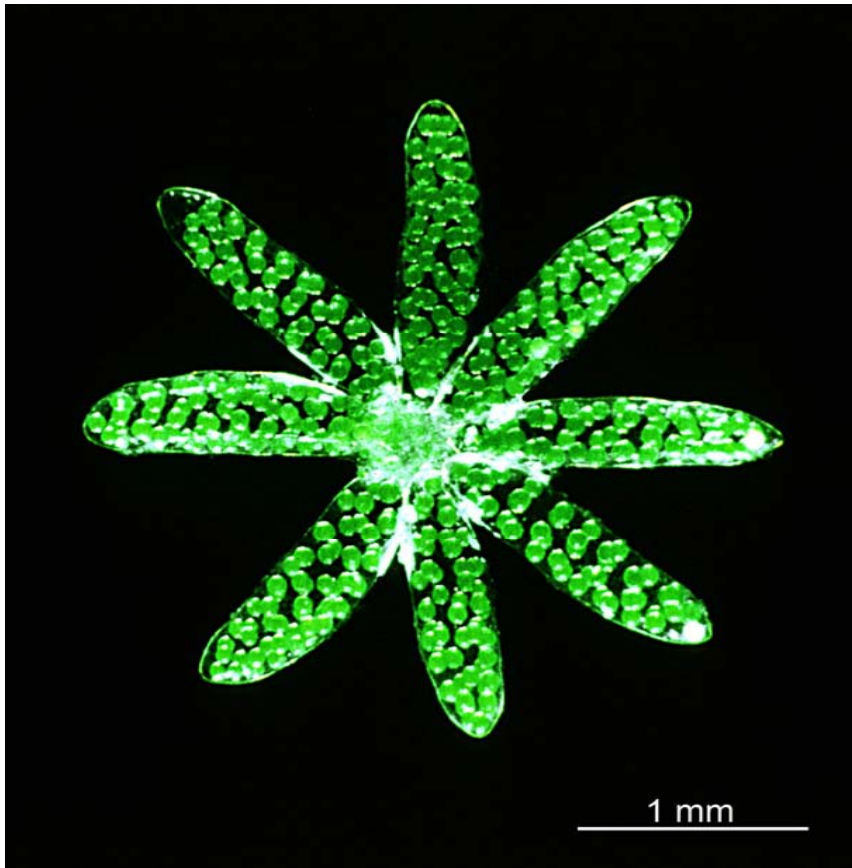
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# *Parvocaulis*





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***Advanced Methods in  
Tropical Phycology***



14 Aug - 4 Sep 2009, Bocas Research Station,  
Bocas del Toro, Panama

