

# CORYNOMORPHA PRISMATICA, A NEW RHODOPHYTE RECORD FOR THE PERSIAN GULF AND THE GULF OF OMAN

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*Corynomorpha prismatica* (J. Agardh) J. Agardh (*Corynomorphaceae*-*Florideophyceae*) is reported from the intertidal of Bandar Lengeh (Hormozgan province) in the Persian Gulf and Bandar Chabhar (Sistan and Baloochestan province) in the northern Gulf of Oman. The species is a new record for both the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman.

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*Key words.* *Corynomorpha prismatica*, new report, Persian Gulf, Gulf of Oman, Iran

گونه *Corynomorpha prismatica* گزارش جدیدی از جلبکهای قرمز برای خلیج

فارس و خلیج عمان

جلوه سهرابی پور و رضا ربیعی

گونه *Corynomorpha prismatica* (J. Agardh) J. Agardh از جلبکهای قرمز خانواده *Corynomorphaceae* برای نخستین بار از مناطق جزر ومدی بندر لنگه در استان هرمزگان و بندر چابهار در شمال دریای عمان واقع در استان سیستان و بلوچستان و در جنوب شرقی ایران بعنوان گونه رکورد جدید برای فلور جلبکی خلیج فارس و خلیج عمان گزارش می‌گردد.

## Introduction

In the course of a study on the marine algal flora of southeastern Iran, *Corynomorpha prismatica* (J. Agardh) J. Agardh was collected from intertidal rock pools at Bandar Chabhar (25° 17' N / 60° 30' E) and Bandar Lengeh (26° 47' N / 55° 17' E).

A review on all published literature on marine algae of the Persian Gulf and the Iranian part of the Gulf of Oman (Al-Hassan & Jones, 1989; Basson et al. 1977; Basson 1979<sub>a</sub> and 1979<sub>b</sub>; Basson 1992; Børgesen 1939; De Clerck & Coppejans 1996; Endlicher & Diesing 1845; Jones 1986; Nizamuddin & Gessner 1970; Sohrabipour & Rabii 1996 & 1999) revealed that the species has not been reported from the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman previously. The specimens are preserved in the herbarium of Research Centre of Agricultural and Natural Resources of Hormozgan province.

## *Corynomorpha prismatica* (J. Agardh)

J. Agardh

Balouchistan: Bandar Chabhar, 25.10.1999, Sohrabipour, Rabei & Hasanpour 11165. – Hormozgan: Bandar Lengeh, 42 km toward East, 29.4.2002, Sohrabipour, Rabei and Khosravifar 2274.

Plants 5-15 cm high, purple to dark brown in color, cartilaginous, terete, up to 5 mm in diameter, generally unbranched but sometimes dichotomously branched in the upper parts, discoid holdfast, tetrasporangial nemathecium create a terminal capitulum of 1–2 cm. Transverse section of branches showed a medulla of anastomosed filaments and stellate cells with a cortex composed of anticlinal rows of dichotomous filaments (Fig. 1). Plants grow aggregated and form patches on coral reefs at the sublittoral fringe.

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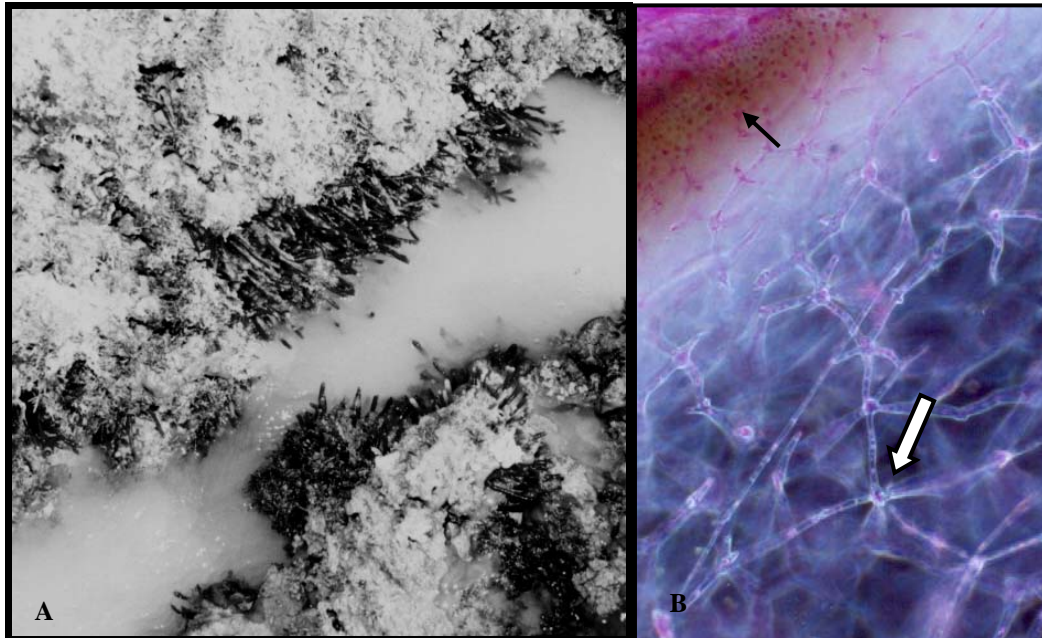


Fig. 1 : *Corynomorpha prismatica*: **A** – Habit of plants growing on a coral reef; **B**- Transverse section showing a filamentous medulla with stellate cells (white arrow) and filamentous cortex (black arrow).