

Studies on Spore Germination and Early Development in *Stoechospermum marginatum* (C Ag) Kütz. (Phaeophyta, Dictyotales)

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Abstract

Investigations were conducted on the germination of tetraspores of the intertidal seaweed *Stoechospermum marginatum* (C. Ag.) Kütz. The influence of light on the polarity of the spores was also studied, and preliminary studies were carried out on the response of the germlings to different salinities. A wide range in tetraspore size was observed. After the first cell division one cell developed into a rhizoid, and the other into a mass of cells, the central nodule, from which a primary shoot with a single apical cell arose. This shoot developed into a broad and flat structure, which subsequently branched dichotomously. Secondary shoots were formed in two ways: from the central nodule and from the primary rhizoid. The spores showed light induced polarity. Very high and very low salinities were not tolerated.