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1

GRT BIODIVERSITY OF FRESH WATER ALGAE FROM PRESIDENCY COLLEGE CAMPUS, CHENNAI, INDIA

В

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Abstract:-The present work deals with the 28 fresh water algal samples and description of 36 taxa of biodiversity of fresh water algae from Presidency college, Chennai, India. Collection of 28 fresh water algal samples were carried out during Augest 2013 to October 2013. Samples were examined in the laboratory and identified. The following algae were present *Chlorella (2), Chlorococcum (1), Pediastrum (1), Coelastrum (1), Tetrastrum (1), Scenedesmus (2), Cosmarium (1), Euglena (2), Phacus (1), Spirogyra (1), Stigeoclonium (1), Melosira (1), Cyclotella (1), Nitzschia (2), Navicula (1), Synedra (1), Microcystis(2), Gloeocapsa (1), Synechococcus (1), Merismopedia (1), Oscillatoria (5), Anabaena (3), Lyngbya (1), Hapalosiphon (1) and Glocotrichia (1) were recorded. Algae are described with photographs.*

Keywords: Biodiversity, Bacillariophyceae, Chlorophyceae, Cyanophycaeae, Fresh water algae.

INTRODUCTION

Algae are microscopically small, unicellular organisms, some of these form colonies and reach size visible to naked eye as minute green particles. The organisms are finely dispersed througout the water and may cause considerable turbity showing the maximum algal bloom. The fresh water ecosystem is of lotic and lentic types, lotic includes streams, channels, dripping rocks, drains, canals, water falls and rivers. The lentic system includes pools, puddles, tanks, wells, ponds, reservoirs, lakes and the agricultural fields like paddy fields. Sub aerial algae into various types of planktons (free floating) and benthons (attached to stones, other aquatic plants, aquatic animals, barks of the trees, sand or embeded in mud, surface of leaves and moist soil). Studies on taxanomy of algae also began in the early part of the last century and monographs on different groups of algae were published (Forel, 1901; Smith, 1924; Hustedt, 1930; Fritsh, 1931, 1945; Geittler, 1932; Iyengar, 1933; Prescott, 1951; Krishnamurthy, 1954; Ganapati, 1956; Desikachary, 1959; Randhawa, 1959; Venkatraman, 1961; Pal, 1962; Philipose, 1967; Anand, 1978 and Zhafer, 1986). The taxanomic group of fresh and marine algal ecosystem (Elumalai. S *et al.*, 2011, 2013 and Sakthivel. R *et al.*, 2012). So seasonal variation in combination with ecosystem variation results in biodiversity of algal species.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area (Fig. 1)

S. Elumalai, R. Sakthivel and A. Mohammed Halith, "BIODIVERSITY OF FRESH WATER ALGAE FROM PRESIDENCY COLLEGE CAMPUS, CHENNAI, INDIA", Golden Research Thoughts | Volume 3 | Issue 7 | Jan 2014 | Online & Print



1. Botanical Garden Pool, 2. Cement Tank near main gate, 3. Near Canteen Well, 4. Near Geology Dept. Well I, 5. Near Geology Dept. Well II, 6.Calcium deposited place near new building, 7. Biotech. Dept. wall, 8. Computer Science Dept. Opposite wall, 9. Bark of the tree near Botanical Garden

The study area presidency college is one of the premier institution of educational excellence in the country is situated in Chennai, the capital city of the Tamil Nadu, facing the sparking waves of the Bay of Bengal. The college was started in 1840. The latitude and longitude of the study area is 13.0601 degree N and 80.2821 degree E respectively.

Random sampling method has been applied in the algal collection procedure. Sample collections were carried out during the month of Augest to October 2013. The different types of algal forms were collected from lentic environment only. The soil is protective and climates are the best situated for different class of algae. On initial examination of the living samples, the coarser material was removed by filteration through a mesh net. The algal samples were preserved in 4% formalin (aqueous solution of formaldehyde). The microalgae were used different stains glycerin was used for mounting the materials. The sentric

organism has been photographed using the OLYMPUS CH20i microscope with attached SONY camera.

Golden Research Thoughts | Volume 3 | Issue 7 | Jan 2014

2

RESULTS

Chlorophyceae

Chlorella vulgaris Beyerinck (Plate-1, fig. 1, 2)

Alga free living. Cells usually solitary or in small colonies, spherical and with a thin cell membrane. Chloroplast parietal, cup shaped and with a pyrenoid which is sometimes indistinct. Cells usually 4.1 µ broad; 4.7 µ long.

Occurrence: C.F. India (Philipose, 1967), Tamil Nadu (Mahendraperumal & Anand, 2008; Elumalai. S et al., 2011, 2013; Arulmurugan et al., 2011) and Kerala (Arulmurugan et al., 2010)

Collected from: Near Geology Department Well 1 and Near Canteen Well

Chlorococcum humicola (Naeg) Rabenhorst (Plate-1, fig.3)

Cells spherical, solitary or in small clumps, variable in size within the same plant mass; cells 15-30 um in diameter, Occurrence: C.F. Tamil Nadu (M. Perumal and Anand, 2008; Arulmurugan et al., 2011 and Sakthivel. R et al., 2012) and Kerala (Arulmurugan et al., 2010).

Collected from: Near Canteen Well.

Pediastrum simplex Meyen (Plate-1, fig. 4)

Colonies circular to oval, of 4-8-16-32 or more cells. Inner side of marginal cells nearly straight, outer side produced into a gradually tapering process, sides concave. Inner cells polygonal. Cells in contact with adjacent ones and usually without intercellular spaces. When present, intercellular spaces very small and few in number. Cell wall smooth or punctate to granulate. Cells 8-13 µm broad, 19-26 µm long.

Occurrence: C.F. India (Philipose, 1967).

Collected from: Cement Tank near main gate.

Coelastrum cambricum W. Archer. (Plate-1, fig.5)

Coenobium spherical, 32 globose cells (ranging from 8 to 128 in number) short projections of the sheath so that triangular intercellular spaces results; outer free wall of the cells with a flattened, truncate projections; cells 20-25 µm in diameter, including sheath.

Occurrence: Orissa (Pattanaik and Adhikary, 2002).

Collected from: Calcium deposited place near new building.

Tetrastrum heteracanthum (Nordest) Chodat (Plate-1, fig.6)

Colonies 4-celled and flat with the cells quarterly arranged. Cells nearly heart shaped (triangular with the outer face slightly concave, rarely convex) with a long and short seta from the outer surface. Seta straight or curved. Chloroplast parietal and usually with a pyrenoid. Cells $35 \,\mu m$.

Occurrence: Orissa (Philipose, 1967).

Collected from: Near Geology Department Well 2.

Scenedesmus acuminatus (Lagerheim) Chodat (Plate-1, fig.7)

Colonies curved and of four to eight (usually four) fusiform cells with sharp pointed ends. All the cells in a colony lunate, or the interior cells forming a flat plate and the other cells lunate and at an angle to the plane of the interior cells; rarely, all cells in the same plane. Cell wall smooth and without teeth or spines. Cells 2-7 μ broad, 12-48 μ between apices.

3

Occurrence: C.F. India (Philipose, 1967).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Scenedesmus bijugatus (Turpin) Kuetzing (Plate-1, fig.8)

Colonies flat or slightly curved, of 2-4-8 cells arranged in a single linear series. Cells oblong-ellipsoid to ovoid with the ends broadly rounded. Cells $3.5-7 \mu$ broad, $7-23 \mu$ long.

Occurrence: C.F. India (Philipose, 1967).

Collected from: Cement Tank near main gate.

Cosmarium nitidulum De Not. (Plate-1, fig.9)

Cells longer than broad, deeply constricted, semicells truncate-subsemi-ciruclar, tapering evenly from rounded basal angels to flattened apex with straight margin; long cell 33.0-36.0 µm, lat.cell 24.0-26.0 µm, lat.isthmus 6.0-8.0 µm.

Occurrence: Orissa (Jena et al., 2005).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Euglena polymorpha Dangeard (Plate-1, fig.10)

Cells metabolic, ovoid-pyriform to subcylindric, narrowed gradually posteriorly to a short, blunt tip; periplast with spiral striations; chloroplast many and disc-like with lanciniate margins, with 1 pyrenoid; cell 10 µm in diameter 36.0 µm long. Occurrence: United States (Prescott, G.W. 1951).

Collected from: Near Canteen Well.

Euglena proxima Dangeard (Plate-1, fig. 11)

Cells metabolic, fusiform, narrowed posteriorly to a blunt tip; periplast spirally striated; chloroplast numerous, irregularly shaped discs; paramylon bodies numerous small rods scattered throughout the cells; cell 20.0 μ m in diameter, 36.0 μ m long.

Occurrence: Orissa (Ratha et al., 2006).

Collected from: Near Geology Dept. Well 1.

Phacus acuminatus Stokes (Plate-1, fig.12)

Cells suborbicular in outline, broadly rounded posteriorly, with a short, blunt apiculation; periplast longitudinally striated; paramylon bodies 1-2 ring-like discs; cells $42.0 \,\mu$ m in diameter, $50.0 \,\mu$ m long.

Occurrence: Orissa (Ratha et al., 2006).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Spirogyra decimina (O. Muller) Kutzing (Plate-1, fig. 13)

Vegetative cells 34-38 µm broad, 125-140 µm long, each cell with 2 chloroplast making 1-2-5 turns; conjugation scalariform.

4

Occurrence: Orissa (Jena et al., 2005).

Collected from: Near Geology Dept. Well 2.



PLATE - 1, 1, 2. Chlorella vulgaris Beyerinck; 3. Chlorococcum humicola (Naeg) Rabenhorst, 4. Pediastrum simplex Meyen, 5. Coelastrum cambricum W. Archer, 6. Tetrastrum heteracanthum (Nordest) Chodat, 7. Scenedesmus acuminatus (Lagerheim) Chodat 8. Scenedesmus bijugatus (Turpin) Kuetzing, 9. Cosmarium nitidulum De Not, 10. Euglena polymorpha Dangeard, 11. Euglena proxima Dangeard, 12. Phacus acuminatus Stokes, 13. Spirogyra decimina (O. Muller) Kutzing, 14. Stigeoclonium subsecundum Kutz, 15. Melosira gramulate Ehr. Ralfs, 16. Cyclotella meneghiniana Kütz, 17. Nitzschia patea (Kützing) W. Smith, 18. Nitzschia sigma W. Sm. var. Rigidula, 19. Navicula halophila (Grun.) Cleve f. subcaptata Ostrup, 20. Synedra ulna (Nitzsch) Ehrenberg var. oxyrhynchus (Kutzing) Van Heurck. (Scale bar; Figs 1-20 = 1-45 µm).

Stigeoclonium subsecundum Kutz. (Plate-1, fig. 14)

Filaments elongate, branched; sometimes short and composed of only 2 or 3 cells. Cells elongate and cylindrical but with slight constrictions at the cross walls; 6-10 µm in diameter and up to 70 µm long.

Occurrence: C. f. Tamil Nadu (Mahendraperumal and Anand, 2008).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Melosira granulate Ehr. Ralfs (Plate-1, fig.15)

Frustules robust, cylindrical, united to form short or long chains; mantle portion cylindrical, punctate, slightly spiral appearance; disc flat; ends cells with few long marginal spines along with sulcus shallow or acute. Diameter of frustules, 7.5- $8.6 \,\mu\text{m}$; height of semicell, $12.5-15 \,\mu\text{m}$.

Occurrence: C.F. Tamil Nadu (Anand, 1998; Mahendraperuamal and Anand, 2008).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Cyclotella meneghiniana Kütz. (Plate-1, fig. 16)

Valves discoid, margins strong, striae thick and coarse, wedge shaped and radially placed. Central portion with extremely fine puncta. Diameter of the cell is 15 to 22 μ , Striae 5 to 10 in 10 μ .

Golden Research Thoughts | Volume 3 | Issue 7 | Jan 2014

5

Occurrence: C.F. Tamil Nadu (Anand, 1998; Mahendraperumal and Anand, 2008).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Nitzschia patea (Kützing) W. Smith (Plate-1, fig. 17)

Valves are lanceolate with sides parallel and tapering rapidly at the poles, terminating with subcapitate apices. Fibulae are distinct, with a distinct central nodule and number 11-13 in 10 µm. Length 12-42 µm, Width 3-4 µm, Striae in 10 µm: 36-38. Occurrence: Gujarat (Rita N. Kumar et al., 2012).

Collected from: Cement Tank near main gate.

Nitzschia sigma W. Sm. var. rigidula (Plate-1, fig. 18)

Valves gently sigmoid, ends attenuate narrow, length 35-60 µm long, 4-5 µm broad, carinal dots 4-14 in 10 µm.

Occurrence: West Bengal (Dasand S. K and S. P. Adhikary, 2012).

Collected from: Calcium deposited place near new building.

Navicula halophila (Grun.) Cleve f. subcaptata Ostrup. (Plate-1, fig. 19)

Valves, lanceolate with distinctly constricted highly produced rounded ends; raphe thin straight, median, with distinct closely placed central nodules; axial area narrow, central area moderately broad; striae fine, lineate, parallel throughout the valve.

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool

Occurrence: Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Prasad & Misra, 1984).

Synedra ulna (Nitzsch) Ehrenberg var. oxyrhynchus (Kutzing) Van Heurck (Plate-1, fig.20)

Valve linear to slightly lanceolate, long, straight, end narrow, roundly capitates, striation parallel through out the valve, slightly radiate at the apices, striae 10-14 in 10 µm area, many times longer than broad, 54-64.6 µm long and 7.5-10 µm broad.

Occurrence: West Bengal (Dasand. S. K and S. P. Adhikary, 2012).

Collected from: Near Canteen Well.

Microcystis aeruginosa Kutz. (Plate-2, fig.21)

Colonies round, cells 2-4 µm in diameter, spherical, generally with gas vacuoles.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Anand and Subramanian, 1994).

Collected from: Near Geology Dept. Well 1.

Microcystis elongate Desikachary (Plate-2, fig.22)

Colony elongate, sometimes clathrate, up to 1mm in length, constricted colonial mucilage distinct, occasionally lamellated, hyaline, referactive; cells often closely arranged, grouping absent, arrangement on uniform, 3.9-5.2 µm broad, gas vacuole present.

6

Occurrence: C.F. India (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Cement Tank near main gate.

Gloeocapsa nigrescens Nageli (Plate-2, fig.23)

Thallus crustaceous, thin; cells spherical, cells sheath 12-13.5 μ m diam., uniting laterally; sheath broad, not lamellated, many in a homogeneous sheath.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959; Anand and Subramanian, 1994).

Collected from: Wall of the Building.

Synechococcus elongates Nag. (Plate-2, fig.24)

Cells cylindrical, 1.4-2 µm broad, single or 2-4 cells together; contents homogeneous and light blue-green.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Merismopedia convolute Breb. (Plate-2, fig.25)

Cells spherical 3-4.0 µm broad, blue-green, olive-green or yellowish.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Near Geology Dept. Well 2.

Oscillatoria princeps Vaucher (Plate-2, fig.26)

Trichome blue green not constricted at the cross walls not granulated 20-25 μ m broad; 1.5-2.0 μ m long; end-cells flatly rounded.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959, Anand and Subramanian, 1994).

Collected from: Wall of the Building.

Oscillatoria curviceps Ag. ex Gomont (Plate-2, fig. 27)

Thallus light or dark blue-green; trichomes more or less straight, bent at the end or spirally coiled, not attenuated or very little attenuated, not constricted at the cross-walls, 10-17 μ m broad, cells 1/3-1/6 as long as broad, 2-5 μ m long, cross-walls sometimes granulated; end-cells flat rounded, not capitates.

7

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.



PLATE - 2, 21. Microcystis aeruginosa Kutz, 22. Microcystis elongate Desikachary, 23. Gloeocapsa nigrescens Nageli, 24. Synechococcus elongates Nag, 25. Merismopedia convolute Breb, 26. Oscillatoria princeps Vaucher, 27. Oscillatoria curviceps Ag. ex Gomont, 28. Oscillatoria agardhii Gom, 29. Osillatoria tenuis Ag, 30. Oscillatoria hamelii Fremy, 31. Anabaena oryzae Fritsch, 32. Anabaena circinalis Rabenhorst ex Born. et Flah, 33. Anabaena Oscillarioides Bory, 34. Lyngbya majuscule (Dillwya) Harvey, 35. Hapalosiphon welwitschii W. et G. S. West, 36. *Glocotrichia ghosei* Singh. (Scale bar; Figs $21-36 = 1-45 \mu m$).

Oscillatoria agardhii Gom. (Plate-2, fig.28)

Trichomes straight, 2-3.5 μ m broad, cells mostly shorter than long, quadrate, end cells convex.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Cement Tank near main gate.

Osillatoria tenuis Ag. (Plate-2, fig.29)

Thallus straight, 4-6 µm broad, not attenuated at the apices, not capitates; 2.0-6.0 µm long.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959, Anand and Subramanian, 1994).

Collected from: Near Canteen Well.

Oscillatoria hamelii Fremy (Plate-2, fig.30)

 $Trichome\ curved,\ constricted\ at\ the\ joints,\ apex\ of\ the\ trichome\ straight,\ calyptras\ none;\ cells\ 2-4\ \mu m\ in\ length.$

8

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Near Geology Dept. Well 1.

Anabaena oryzae Fritsch (Plate-2, fig.-31)

Thallus gelatinous, membranous, straight, parallel cells 2.5-3.0 µm broad, more or less barrel shaped, heterocyst terminal and intercalary.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Wall of the Building.

Anabaena circinalis Rabenhorst ex Born. et Flah (Plate-2, fig.32)

Thallus circinate, without a sheath, 8-14 µm broad; cells barrel shaped, heterocyst subspherical, 6-8µm broad.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Bark of the tree near Botanical Garden.

Anabaena Oscillarioides Bory (Plate-2, fig.33)

Thallus green, trichome 4.0-6.0 µm broad; cells barrel shaped as long as broad, end cells rounded; heterocysts oval 3.0-6.0 µm broad, 4.0-6.0 µm long.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Botanical Garden Pool.

Lyngbya majuscule (Dillwya) Harvey (Plate-2, fig.34)

Filaments very long, slightly coiled; sheath colourless, lamellated up to 8 µm thick, outside trichome blue green, not attenuated at the ends, calyptras absent.

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959, Anand and Subramanian, 1994).

Collected from: Near Canteen Well

Hapalosiphon welwitschii W. et G. S. West (Plate-2, fig.35)

Filaments single among other algae, somewhat flexuous, 5.5-7.5 µm broad; sheath very close, hardly visible, colorless; cells sub spherical or elongate, as long as broad or longer; lateral branches short, as broad as the main filament narrower, 3.5-5.7 µm broad, slightly attenuated at the ends; cells of the branches 1-3 time as long as broad; heterocyst rare, intercalary, quadrate rounded or cylindrical, 6 µm braod, 6-8 µm long; spores sub-spherical or oblong, 5 µm broad 1-2 times as long as broad.

Occurrence: C.F. India (Desikachary, 1959) and Tamil Nadu (Mahendraperumal & Anand, 2008).

Collected from: Calcium deposited place near new building.

Glocotrichia ghosei Singh (Plate-2, fig.36)

Thallus spherical, brown sheath; heterocyst single spherical, 8.5-10 µm broad, spores long ellipsoidal with a hyaline smooth outer wall, with sheath $5-6.5 \,\mu m$ thick.

9

Occurrence: Tamil Nadu (Desikachary, 1959).

Collected from: Wall of the Building.

DISCUSSION

A total number of genera 25 and species 36 belonging to Chlorophyceae (Genus 11, Species 14) of Chlorella (2), Scenedesmus (2) and Euglena (2) were dominant genus, Bacillariophyceae (Genus 5, Species 6) of Nitzchia (2) were dominant genus and Cyanophyceae (Genus 9, Species 16) of Oscillatoria (5) and Anabaena (3) were dominant genus are recorded from Presidency College, Chennai, India.

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10

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