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The Study of Fresh Water Algae from Kantharyar Lake, Pathein Township

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Abstract

For the study of freshwater algae, the materials were collected from Kantharyar Lake, Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Division. The algae collections were made fortnightly from December, 1998 to June, 2008. The algae samples were examined under the microscopes directly mounted on glass slides in water or 20% glycerin. Freshwater algae were classified and identified according to V.J. Chapman and D.J. Chapman, (1973); F.E. Fritsch, (1945); G.W. Prescott, (1962); and H. Skuja, (1949). In this survey, morphology of filamentous algae (5) genera, Desmid (12) genera and Diatoms (5) genera were described with the help of photographs.

Introduction

Freshwater algae (microalgae) are photosynthetic organisms and they produce oxygen, while reducing carbon dioxide. As they are feed for fish and other aquatic organisms, they are at the beginning of food chains in nature.

Algae are not only used as vegetables and medicines, but they are also important as producers of phycocolloids and animal feeds. As the algae flora is one of the most important components of aquatic ecosystems, a preliminary survey of freshwater algae flora from Kantharyar Lake, Pathein Township area, was therefore conducted to provide basic information for further research.

In this survey, the materials were collected from Kantharyar Lake. It is situated in Pathein Township, Ayeyawady Division. It lies between Pathein University and Golf Club.

In this survey, occurrence and the morphological characters of filamentous algae (5) genera, Desmid (12) genera and Diatoms (5) genera are represented with photographic records.

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