

# NEW RECORDS OF MARINE ALGAE FOR MIDDLE KURIL ISLANDS

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The Middle Kuril Islands are the group of Greater Kuril Chain islands of Kuril Archipelago situated between Vriez Strait (or Miyabe Line) in the south to Fourth Kuril Strait in the north. The seaweeds were collected from June to August 2019 at the coast of Urup and Simushir Islands (Middle Kuril Islands) from the intertidal and subtidal zones and cast ashore during the 56th expedition of SRS “Academic Oparin” in the Sea of Okhotsk. The results of floristic investigations revealed 17 species of marine algae not recorded previously for the Middle Kuril Islands. Eight species were recorded for Kuril Islands for the first time. Thirteen species are new for the algal flora of Urup Island, and 18 species are new for Simushir Island. Together with literature data the check-list of the seaweeds of Urup Island includes 153 species, and that of Simushir Island – 170 species. The annotated check-list of 28 species is provided. None of the found species is new for the algal flora of Far Eastern seas. All of them are usual components of the floras of Kamchatka and the Northern Kuril Islands, some of the species have a broad distribution along the Russian coast of the Northwest Pacific. The absence of these species in previously published check-lists of the studied area is a result of insufficient survey of seaweeds of the water area.

*Keywords:* new records, Urup Island, Simushir Island.

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