

ALGAE AND CYANOPROKARYOTES FROM THE SOILS OF THE LARSEMANN HILLS OASIS (PROGRESS STATION, ANTARCTICA)

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DOI: 10.31857/S0006813621100057

Information on the cyanoprokaryotes and eukaryotic algae inhabiting the grounds of the Larsemann Hills oasis in the area of the Russian station Progress is presented for the first time. The Larsemann Hills Oasis is located on the southeast coast of Prydz Bay (Ingrid Christensen Shore, Princess Elizabeth Land, East Antarctica). The oasis covers an area of 40 km². The territory is composed of rocky outcrops of volcanic and sedimentary rocks of various ages with heights from 60 to 150 m a. s. l. and valleys with steep slopes. Culture methods revealed 17 species of three divisions: Chlorophyta – 10, Cyanoprokaryota – 6, Ochrophyta – 1. For all the species, the regions of Antarctica are listed where they were found earlier. The studied communities include widespread species (*Pseudococcomyxa simplex*, *Stichococcus bacillaris*) and those frequently occurring (*Leptolyngbya foveolaria*, *Schizochlamydeella minutissima*) in the Antarctic region, as well as the species identified only in a few regions of the continent (*Heterotetracystis intermedia*, *Myrmecia bisecta*, *Heterococcus* cf. *viridis*). The composition of the microalgae communities is typical of the Antarctic soils. The richest in the number and diversity of taxa are the soils under algal and moss-lichen sods in humid, wind-protected and, consequently, well-warmed habitats.

Keywords: Cyanoprokaryota, Chlorophyta, Ochrophyta, soils, Larsemann Hills Oasis, Antarctica

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are grateful to M.P. Andreyev (BIN RAS) for collecting the materials.

The work was carried out within the framework of the state assignment in accordance with the thematic plan of the Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences “Flora and systematics of algae, lichens and mosses of Russia and phytogeographically important regions of the World” (No. 121021600184-6). The microphotographs were taken using equipment of the Core Facility Center “Cell and Molecular Technologies in Plant Science” at the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Science.

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