

NEW SPECIES OF *SYNURA* SECTION *SYNURA* (CHRYSOPHYCEAE, SYNURALES, SYNURACEAE) IN WATERBODIES OF THE SOUTH URALS

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New data on the distribution of six *Synura* species from the section *Synura* are presented, based on the morphometric analysis of siliceous flakes using scanning and transmission electron microscopy. These species (*S. chinulata*, *S. mammosa*, *S. mollispina*, *S. punctulosa*, *S. spinosa*, *S. uvella*) were identified during our extensive sampling in freshwater habitats of the mountain-forest zone of the South Urals eastern foothills, and the steppe Transurals within the Chelyabinsk and Orenburg regions, and are new to the algal flora of the region under study. In this paper, detailed descriptions of the discovered species are given, and accompanied with information about their localities, distribution and ecology in the study region, illustrated with electronic microphotographs, including details of the structure of the siliceous cell covers. The obtained results supplement the information on the flora of chrysophytic algae in Russia and can be used in environmental monitoring of waterbodies.

Keywords: *Synura*, taxonomy, morphology, biogeography, ecology, South Urals

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