

SPECIES OF THE GENUS *PLACONEIS* (BACILLARIOPHYTA) IN RUSSIA: MORHOLOGY, TAXONOMY, DISTRIBUTION

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This scanning electron microscopy study of materials from waterbodies and watercourses in Russia (European part, Western and Eastern Siberia) provides data on the morphology of 21 representatives of the genus *Placoneis*, including three unidentified species. Ranges of variability of main quantitative diagnostic characteristics (valve length and width, number of striae and areolae in 10 µm) are evaluated in some taxa (*P. hambergii*, *P. ignorata*, *P. rostratum*, *P. undulata*) and the first data on such an important ultrastructural feature as the number of areolae in 10 µm are obtained. We also have specified taxonomic position of some representatives of the genus, including the recently described species *P. nanoclementis*, and ranges of the species under study. A new species to the flora of Russia, *P. clementispronina*, was recorded. The list of representatives of the genus *Placoneis* in Russia is refined and at present comprises 30 taxa of specific and intraspecific ranks.

Key words: waterbodies and watercourses of Russia, Bacillariophyta, *Placoneis*, electron microscopy, morphology, taxonomy, distribution, new records

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