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Environmental conditions of alpine springs of the upper Po River (NW Italy) on the basis of their epilithic diatom communities

Abstract - Diatom (Bacillariophyceae) assemblages were sampled in 7 springs in the upper part of the River Po basin in the summer of 2010. Four springs are situated in the mountainous part of the study area while three are in the lowland plain. Chemical-physical variables were measured and analyzed in water samples of 6 springs. 101 diatom species were identified in the surveyed springs, with species richness ranging from 12 to 52. *Gomphonema nathorstii*, described for arctic regions, was found in Italy for the first time. Multivariate statistical analysis was undertaken to link taxonomical and environmental data, and indicated the existence of three distinct environmental features, each one characterized by prevalent diatom species: 1) low pH and high dissolved oxygen, 2) both high pH and dissolved oxygen and 3) high levels of silica and conductivity.

Key words: Diatoms, alpine springs, ecological indicators, aquatic habitats.

Riassunto - Condizioni ambientali delle sorgenti alpine dell'Alta Valle del Fiume Po (Italia NW) sulla base delle comunità di diatomee epilitiche.

Nell'estate 2010 sono state campionate le comunità di diatomee (Bacillariophyceae) di 7 sorgenti nella parte superiore del bacino del Fiume Po. Quattro sorgenti sono situate nella parte montuosa dell'area di studio mentre tre sono collocate nella parte planiziale. Sono stati rilevati alcuni parametri chimico-fisici in campioni idrici di 6 sorgenti. Sono state identificate complessivamente 101 specie, con un minimo di 12 ed un massimo di 52 specie nelle singole sorgenti. Tra queste si segnala la presenza di *Gomphonema nathorstii*, primo ritrovamento in Italia, descritta per le zone artiche. L'analisi statistica multivariata ha permesso di individuare tre situazioni distinte, ognuna contraddistinta da specie prevalenti caratteristiche: una caratterizzata da bassi valori di pH e elevati valori di ossigeno disciolto, una da valori elevati sia di pH che di ossigeno disciolto ed una da valori relativamente elevati di silice e di conducibilità.

Parole chiave: Diatomee, sorgenti alpine, indicatori ecologici, habitat acquatici.

Introduction

Bacillariophyceae, commonly named Diatoms, represent an important taxonomical group of microscopical freshwater and marine algae characterized by a silica frustule. Diatoms are the object of an increasing number of studies, mainly in

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relation with the known value of many of the most common species as biological indicators of ecological conditions (Van Dam *et al.*, 1994). Over 24,000 species have been identified and about 200,000 exist (Mann & Droop 1996). However, diatoms still remain under-represented in ecological studies of aquatic environments, despite their importance in terms of photosynthetic and trophic role at a planetary scale (Longhurst *et al.*, 1995). In fact, diatoms, besides playing a fundamental role in the silica biogeochemical cycle, constitute significant part of the planetary biomass, thanks to a primary production rate of the order of 10¹³ kgC y⁻¹, estimated to amount up to about 20-25% of the total primary production of the planet Earth (Werner, 1977). Most of the primary production occurs in the oceans, where diatoms are responsible for up to 35% of the primary producion in oligotrophic waters and up to 75% in nutrient rich areas (Tréguer *et al.*, 1995). Nevertheless, diatoms are also important in freshwater and even terrestrial ecosystems, wherever some humidity is present (Ettl & Gärtner, 1995).

Springs and mountain headwaters are important freshwater environments. Some studies of alpine springs have been undertaken and appear to be increasing in recent years including both diatoms (Battegazzore *et al.*, 2004; Cantonati *et al.*, Eds., 2007) and other biota (Orendt, 2000; Hàjkovà *et al.*, 2007). These "marginal" but strategic environments are still scarcely considered in routine monitoring (except for those used for drinking purposes). The importance of these habitats as sources of both water and biodiversity for the surrounding territories often seems to be underestimated, even in protected areas. From an administrative and legislative point of view, attention to the importance of the environmental protection of springs still appears to be inadequate.

A survey was undertaken on a number of springs of the upper valley of the River Po (Italy's main river) and their headwaters, with the aim of building the basis for future developments of the environmental protection of these habitats. In particular, the prosecution of the survey by means of a monitoring program and its connection with similar existing projects in other areas, would be useful for the future expansion of knowledge of alpine spring environments. As a consequence, the information collected in this way would allow a progressively greater improvement of the management and conservation of alpine springs.

Study area and methods

The R.Po is the principal Italian watercourse with a total length of 672 km. The study was undertaken in the upper 30 km of the Po valley, which is situated in western Piedmont, NW Italy and borders with the Ubaye-Durance-Rhone river basin in France. The source of the R.Po is situated along the lower slopes of Mount Viso (3,841 m a.s.l., the highest peak in this sector the Alps). The valley descends with a strong slope (10%) for about 15 km before it reaches the plain, characterized by intensive agriculture (cereals and fruit). The main axis of the alpine chain in this area runs from N to S and the Po runs from W to E; the upper Po basin is bordered to the N and to the S by secondary mountain chains separating it from the R.Varaita basin to the S and from the R.Pellice basin to the N.

The Mount Viso complex originated from magmatic rocks and deposits on the bottom of the ancient Tethys Sea which were successively metamorphosized during the orogenesis of the Alps in the Mesozoic (Eusebio *et al.*, 2010). The present bedrock of the study area around Mount Viso can be ascribed to formations of schists and ophiolites of the southern Cotian Alps. On the surface, a significant proportion of the rocky substratum is the result o glacial activities. Below the Mount Viso complex, the villages of Crissolo and Oncino are located in an area characterized by calcareous and dolomitic rocks of karstic nature. Further downstream, gneiss and mica schist formations are found. Various cristalline rock formations are also present. In the area of Ostana and Crissolo, rocks containing iron mineral appear. Finally, the plains are made of Quaternary deposits of alluvial origin.

Benthic diatoms were sampled in the summer of 2010 in the 7 springs and headwaters shown in Figure 1. Sampling locations were situated in the Po fluvial natural Park in the Piedmont administrative region, Cuneo province, at altitudes ranging from 264 to 2,020 m a.s.l. These include the spring which is considered to be the source of the R.Po and 6 other springs situated in the lateral valleys and in the plain. Summary data for all of the sampling locations, including prevalent local lithology and land cover recorded in the field according to the classification of Regione Piemonte (2008), are given in Table 1. Springs 1-4 can be considered as relatively high altitude stations, while the remaining three springs (5-7) can be defined as relatively low altitude locations. Spring 4 was characterized by a low discharge and a thin veil of water, which allowed the sampling of diatoms but not of water. In the remaining 6 springs, temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen and conductivity were measured in the field by means of a multiparametric probe (Hydrolab, model QUANTA GTM), while water samples were taken to the ARPA laboratory in Cuneo where analysis of silicates was undertaken according to APAT/CNR-IRSA (2003) protocols.

Standard diatom sampling protocols were applied (Kelly *et al.*, 1998). About 400 valves were counted for each sample. Remaining valves on the slides were also examined in order to include the possible rare species (abundance < 1/400) in order to estimate the total taxonomic richness for each sample. For diatom identification, taxonomic keys and other publications were used, including Lange-Bertalot & Metzeltin (1996), Krammer (2000), Lange-Bertalot (2001), Krammer (2002) and Krammer (2003). Water quality indices EPI-D (Dell'Uomo, 2003), IPS (CEMA-

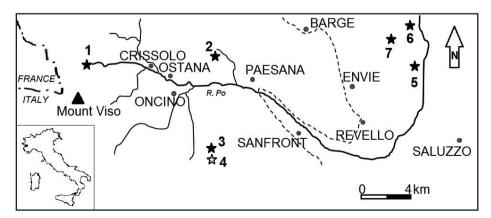


Fig. 1 - Study area showing with positions of the springs given by \bigstar (diatom sampling and water chemistry analysis) and \oiint (only diatom sampling).

Fig. 1 - Area dello studio con localizzazione delle sorgenti indicata dal simbolo ★ (prelievo di diatomee e rilevamento parametri chimici) e ☆ (solo prelievo di diatomee). GREF, 1982) and TI (Rott *et al.*, 1999) were calculated for all spring samples. The EPI-D index was chosen because it was the first diatom index developed for Italy; IPS and TI were chosen because they have been officially adopted as metrics for routine monitoring of Italian watercourses (Italia, 2011). Multi-variate techniques were applied to the data set, using a dedicated software (McCune & Mefford, 1999). In order to individuate underlying trends linking chemical and taxonomical data, an ordination (Canonical Correspondence Analysis, CCA) was performed on the 25 most important taxa (considered to be those present with at least 10 individuals in at least one of the counts of the 6 spring samples on which CCA was applied) and on the 5 most significant variables, selected by performing a preliminary multiple regression. The 25 selected taxa are those in bold characters in Appendix 1. The choice of CCA as the multi-variate technique was based on a preliminary Detrended Correspondence Analysis (DCA) on the taxonomic data which showed a total gradient value of 5.1 standard deviation units for axis 1, indicating a unimodal distribution of the taxonomical abundance data (ter Braak & Prentice, 1988).

Tab. 1 - Summary data of springs sampled in the present study with indication of altitude, prevalent lithology and land cover according to Regione Piemonte (2008). Tab. 1 - Dati riassuntivi delle sorgenti campionate nel presente studio con indicazione dell'altitudine, della litologia prevalente e della land cover (Regione Piemonte, 2008).

Springs	UTM coordinates		Altitude	Prevalent lithology	Land Cover
			[m a.s.l.]		
1	348960	4951630	2020	gabbro and prasinites	Scarce vegetation
2	360120	4951950	1350	gneiss and quartzites	Forest
3	359530	4944330	1860	gneissic mica schists	Meadow/pasture
4	359670	4943700	1850	gneissic mica schists	Meadow/pasture
5	376630	4951430	270	quaternary deposits	Arable land
6	375770	4954430	264	quaternary deposits	Arable land
7	374780	4952620	270	quaternary deposits	Forest

Results

The results of water chemistry measurements and analyses are given in Table 2. Electric conductivity, as expected, tended to increase with the decrease in altitude, while silicate content ranged from 2.5 to 5.6 mg l⁻¹ in the three higher altitude sites and from 21.0 to 22.2 mg l⁻¹ in the lower three springs. pH was close to neutrality in five springs and slightly acidic (5.2) in spring 3. Dissolved oxygen was always above 89% saturation.

A total of 101 species belonging to 35 genera were identified. *Gomphonema* and *Navicula* were the genera with the highest richness (13 and 9 species or varieties, respectively), while in terms of individual abundance the dominant genera were *Diatoma* and *Achnanthidium* followed by *Eunotia, Gomphonema* and *Fragilaria.* The check-list of all the species found in this study is given in Appendix 1.

Springs 6 and 7, both situated in the lower part of the study area, showed the highest diatomic biodiversity (richness), with 52 and 38 species, respectively. Lowest species richness was found in spring 3 (12 species), one of the relatively higher

Tab. 2 - Values of the parameters temperature, electric conductivity, pH, dissolved oxygen, silica for springs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7. Water samples were not taken in spring 4. Tab. 2 - Valori dei parametri temperatura, conducibilità elettrica, pH, ossigeno disciolto e silicati per le sorgenti 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 e 7. Non sono stati presi campioni d'acqua nella sorgente 4.

Spring	1	2	3	5	6	7
pH	7.8	7.0	5.2	6.4	6.9	6.9
Electric conductivity (μ S cm ⁻¹)	85	18	21	316	316	205
Temperature (°C)	3.4	13.0	8.8	13.3	13.1	13.7
Dissolved oxygen (mg l ⁻¹)	12.9	10.9	12.0	10.0	10.6	9.3
% saturation Dissolved oxygen	97.3	105.0	103.6	96.0	101.2	89.6
Silica (mg l ⁻¹)	2.6	5.6	2.5	21.0	21.3	22.2

altitude stations. *Diatoma mesodon* and *Achnanthidium minutissimum* were the overall most abundant species, accounting for 21.6 and 18.3% of the total counted individuals, respectively. *D. mesodon* is pollution-sensitive and typical of low trophic levels, while *A. minutissimum* requires well oxygenated waters but tolerates a wide range of trophic conditions, from oligotrophic to eutraphentic (Van Dam, 1994). Next most abundant species are *Planothidium lanceolatum* (8.7%) and *Eunotia exigua* (7.2%) followed at a distance by *Meridion circulare* (4.4%), *Psammothidium chlidanos* (4.0%), *Ulnaria biceps* (3.2%) and all the others. Observing the species distribution within stations, *D. mesodon* was dominant in two high altitude springs (R.Po spring n.1 at Crissolo and R.Agliasco spring 2 near Paesana). Other dominant species were *E. exigua* in the high altitude R.Croesio spring 3 (the same one with lowest taxonomic richness), while in the remaining stations the relatively more abundant species were *A. minutissimum* in springs 4, 5 and 6 and *P. lanceolatum* in spring 3, *M. circulare* and *U. biceps* in spring 5.

In Figure 2, some images of diatoms found in this study are given. Among the less common taxa, *Gomphonema nathorstii*, described by Foged (1964) and reported by Metzeltin (in Reichardt, 1999) for Spitsbergen Island situated in the northern arctic circle, was found in spring 4. This finding of a rare arctic species so far South of the described area of the original finding is of great interest.

Values of diatom indices for the different samples (expressed in the standard 1-20 scale of increasing water quality) are given in Table 3. TI index ranged from 6.8 to 17.4, with a slight difference between mean values for lowland and upstream sites (8.2 and 14.1, respectively). Small differences were also observed between average values of the other indices calculated for high and low altitude sites (19.0 and 16.5 for IPS and 16.5 and 15.7 for EPI-D, respectively), indicating –as expected– higher quality values in the higher altitude springs. However, in terms of biodiversity, the lowland springs (with an average of 38.0 taxa) were richer in taxa than those situated at higher altitudes (20.3).

The ordination undertaken with the CCA was characterized by eigenvalues of 0.84 (axis 1), 0.76 (axis 2) and 0.46 (axis 3), while 36% of the total variance of the taxonomic data was explained by the first axis, 33% by the second and 20% by the third. A Monte-Carlo permutation test (499 runs) showed that the species-

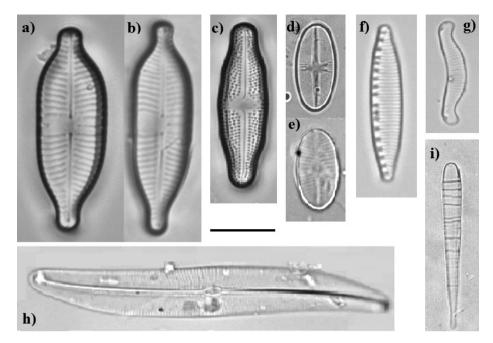


Fig. 2 - LM (1000x) photographs of some of the species found in the present study.: a) and b) *Gomphonema nathorstii*, a rare species described for arctic regions, found in spring 4; c) *Luticola dismutica* found in springs 1 and 2; d) and e) *Planothidium chlidanos*, abundant in spring 3; f) *Nitzschia hantzschiana* found in spring 4; g) *Eunotia exigua*, dominant diatom in spring 3; h) *Gyrosigma obtusatum* observed in spring 6; i) *Meridion circulare*, abundant in spring 5. For all photos the scale bar represents 10μ. Fig. 2 - Microfotografie (1000x) di alcune delle specie rinvenute nel corso del presente studio: a) e b) *Gomphonema nathorstii*, una specie rara descritta per le regioni Artiche, campionata nella sorgente 4; c) *Luticola dismutica* rinvenuta nelle sorgenti 1 e 2; d) ed e) *Planothidium chlidanos*, abbondante nella sorgente 3; f) *Nitzschia hantzschiana* trovata nella sorgente 4; g) *Eunotia exigua*, diatomea dominante nella sorgente 5. Per tutte le foto la barra della scala corrisponde a 10μ.

Tab. 3 - Values of taxonomic richness and of the diatom water quality indices EPI-D, IPS and TI (see text).

Tab. 3 - Valori del numero di specie e degli indici diatomici di qualità dell'acqua EPI-D, IPS e TI (vedere testo).

Spring	N. of taxa	EPI-D	IPS	TI
1	18	16.8	18.6	17.4
2	20	15.5	19.2	15.7
3	12	17.1	19.5	8.7
4	31	16.4	18.5	14.6
5	24	16.3	17.6	9.7
6	52	13.6	14.1	8.1
7	38	17.1	17.9	6.8

environment correlations were significant (p=0.05). The triplot of the first two axes of the CCA with samples, the main taxa and the environmental variables is shown in Figure 3. It can be observed that pH was strongly and negatively correlated with axis 1, while DO was positively correlated with axis 2 and water temperature, conductivity and silica were negatively correlated with axis 2. Springs 1 and 2 were well correlated with high dissolved oxygen and pH values, while spring 3 was correlated to high DO but low pH values. The lowland springs 5, 6 and 7 were correlated to low DO and high temperature, conductivity and silica values.

Discussion and Conclusions

The investigated springs could be ascribed to 3 different categories. The first was characterized by alkaline and well oxygenated waters and was strongly associated with the presence of species such as *D. mesodon* and *Gomphonema micropus* (springs 1 and 2). The second group included well oxygenated waters associated with species like *P. chlidanos* and *E. exigua* (including spring 3), while the category grouping lowland springs was characterized by circumneutral pH associated with several species including *A. minutissimum*,

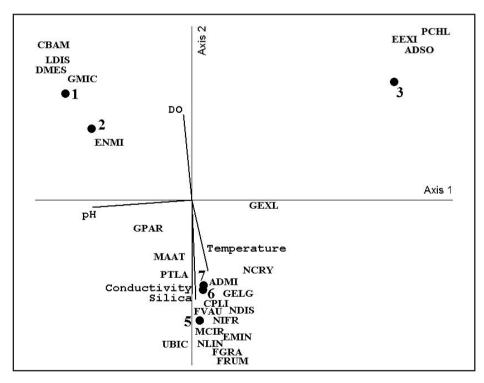


Fig. 3 - CCA triplot for the first 2 axes of the ordination, showing the 6 springs where environmental data were available, the 6 environmental variables represented by vectors and the 25 most representative species (for complete species names represented by the codes, see Appendix 1).

Fig. 3 - Diagramma della CCA riportante i primi due assi dell'ordinamento, con rappresentazione dei 6 campioni, delle 6 variabili ambientali rappresentate da vettori e delle 25 specie più rappresentative (per il nome completo delle specie indicate con codici si veda l'Appendice 1).

P. lanceolatum and *N. linearis*. It is plausible that diatom associations identified in springs 4 and 3 are similar due to their close location and similar lithology and land cover. A future development of this first study will be to compare the results with those of other similar studies undertaken in various sectors of the western Italian Alps (Battegazzore *et al.*, 2004; Falasco & Bona, 2011) in order to obtain a wider picture including other taxa and environmental conditions.

From the point of view of endangered species, 90 of the 101 species found are considered in the sole Red List of diatom species existing in Europe (Lange-Bertalot & Steindorf, 1996). Among these, 19 (21.1%) are classified as endangered in different degrees, for 28 (31.1%) the risk is not estimated and 43 (47.8%) are classified as not threatened. These figures should be considered with some caution, because the German Red List of diatom taxa may not be perfectly representative for Italy. Moreover, among the 11 species found in this study but absent from the Red List are extremely rare species such as *G. nathorstii* which were not previously recorded for Italy and neither for Germany.

Springs are vulnerable habitats, of strategic importance to the biodiversity of the territories that surround them, but are generally excluded from biological water quality monitoring programs implemented in European countries according to the Water Framework Directive (DIR 2000/60/CE). Further studies are needed in order to evaluate the methods, criteria and reference conditions for the future monitoring of alpine springs.

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Appendix 1 - Relative abundances of all identified taxa in the 7 sampled springs, with indication of the corresponding codes and their status according to Red List criteria of threatened species (R.L.) The classes of abundance are given as follows: + (up to 9 individuals), ++ (from 10 to 74 individuals and +++ (75 individuals or more). The meanings of the symbols of Red List status (Lange-Bertalot & Steindorf, 1996) are: 0=almost extinct, 1= threatened by extinction, 2=strongly threatened, 3=endangered, G=existing risk, R=very rare, V=in regression, * =risk not estimated, D=insufficient data, ?=not endangered. The 25 species used in the multivariate analysis (CCA) are those in bold character.

Appendice 1 - Abbondanze relative di tutti i taxa identificati nelle 7 sorgenti campionate, con indicazione del corrispondente codice e loro status rispetto alla Lista Rossa (R.L.) delle diatomee minacciate. Le classi di abbondanza sono indicate come segue: + (fino a 9 individui), ++ (da 10 a 74 individui e +++ (75 individui e oltre). I simboli dello status secondo i criteri della Lista Rossa (Lange-Bertalot & Steindorf, 1996) sono: 0=quasi estinta, 1= minacciata di estinzione, 2=fortemente minacciata, 3=minacciata, G=rischio esistente, R=molto rara, V=in regressione, * =rischio non stimato, D=dati insufficienti, ?=non in pericolo. Le 25 specie utilizzate nell'analisi multivariata (CCA) sono quelle in neretto.

			SPRING						
CODE	TAXON	R.L.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ACLI	Achnanthidium lineare W. Smith	3	+	+		+	+	+	+
ADMI	Achnanthidium minutissimum (Kützing) Czarnecki	?	+	+	++	+++	+++	+++	+++
ADPY	Achnanthidium pyrenaicum (Hustedt) Kobayasi	?	+	+	+	+			
ADSO	Achnanthidium subatomoides (Hustedt) Monnier, Lange-Bertalot & Ector	V				+	++		

		SPRING								
CODE	TAXON	R.L.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
AMMO	Amphora montana Krasske	*						+		
APED	Amphora pediculus (Kützing) Grunow	?							+	
APEL	Amphipleura pellucida Kützing	*							+	
CAFF	Cymbella affinis Kützing var. affinis					+				
CBAM	<i>Cymbopleura amphicephala</i> Krammer	V	++							
CCUS	Cymbella cuspidata Kützing	V							+	
CDUB	Cyclostephanos dubius (Fricke) Round	?	+							
CEUG	Cocconeis euglypta Ehrenberg	?			+					
CMEN	Cyclotella meneghiniana Kützing	?						+		
CPLI	<i>Cocconeis placentula</i> Ehrenberg var. <i>lineata</i> (Ehr.) Van Heurck	?				+			++	
CSAQ	<i>Cymbopleura subaequalis</i> (Grunow) Krammer var. <i>subaequalis</i>	G				+				
CSIL	Caloneis silicula (Ehr.) Cleve	*					+			
DFON	Diploneis fontanella Lange-Bertalot					+				
DHIE	Diatoma hyemalis (Roth) Heiberg var. hyemalis	*	+							
DMES	<i>Diatoma mesodon</i> (Ehrenberg) Kützing	*	+++	+++		+++		+		
DPER	<i>Diadesmis perpusilla</i> (Grunow) D.G. Mann in Round <i>et al.</i>	?		+		+				
DTEN	Denticula tenuis Kützing	*		+						
DVUL	Diatoma vulgaris Bory	D	+			+				
EBIL	<i>Eunotia bilunaris</i> (Ehr.) Mills var. <i>bilunaris</i>	?							+	
EEXI	<i>Eunotia exigua</i> (Brebisson ex Kützing) Rabenhorst	?		+	+++				+	
EMIN	<i>Eunotia minor</i> (Kützing) Grunow in Van Heurck	*		+			++	++		
ENMI	<i>Encyonema minutum</i> (Hilse in Rabh.) D.G. Mann	*		++	+	++			+	
ESLE	<i>Encyonema silesiacum</i> (Bleisch in Rabh.) D.G. Mann	*				+	+	+	+	
EULA	<i>Eucocconeis laevis</i> (Oestrup) Lange- Bertalot	*				+				
FARC	Fragilaria arcus (Ehrenberg) Cleve var. arcus	?	+			+				
FCSE	Fragilaria capucina Desm. var. septentrionalis (Oestrup) Lange-Bertalot							+		

			SPRING							
CODE	TAXON	R.L.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
FGRA	Fragilaria gracilis Østrup	*				+	++	+		
FNOP	<i>Fragilaria neoproducta</i> Lange-Bertalot	+						+		
FPEM	<i>Fragilaria perminuta</i> (Grunow) Lange-Bertalot	*		+						
FRUM	<i>Fragilaria rumpens</i> (Kütz.) G.W.F. Carlson	*					+	++		
FTEN	<i>Fragilaria tenera</i> (W. Smith) Lange- Bertalot	V						+	+	
FVAU	<i>Fragilaria vaucheriae</i> (Kützing) Petersen	?		++		+	+		+	
FVUL	<i>Frustulia vulgaris</i> (Thwaites) De Toni	?						+	+	
GACU	Gomphonema acuminatum Ehrenberg	?						+	+	
GANG	Gomphonema angustatum (Kützing) Rabenhorst	*			+		+		+	
GANT	Gomphonema angustum Agardh	V	+	+						
GAUG	Gomphonema augur Ehrenberg	*						+		
GCLA	Gomphonema clavatum Ehrenberg	*						+	+	
GELG	<i>Gomphonema elegans</i> (Reichardt & Lange-Bertalot) Monnier & Ector	*						++		
GEXL	<i>Gomphonema exilissimum</i> (Grun.) Lange-Bertalot & Reichardt	V				+	++	++		
GMAE	Gomphonema micropus var. aequale (Gregory) Reichardt			+						
GMIC	Gomphonema micropus Kützing var. micropus	*	++		+	++		+	+	
GNAT	Gomphonema nathorstii Foged					+				
GOLI	Gomphonema olivaceum (Hornemann) Brébisson var. olivaceum	?				+			+	
GPAR	<i>Gomphonema parvulum</i> (Kützing) Kützing var. <i>parvulum</i> f. <i>parvulum</i>	?	+			++			+	
GSCL	Gomphonema subclavatum Grunow	*				+	+			
GTER	Gomphonema tergestinum Fricke	G	+							
GYOB	<i>Gyrosigma obtusatum</i> (Sullivan & Wormley) Boyer							+		
HAMP	Hantzschia amphioxys (Ehr.) Grunow in Cleve et Grunow 1880	?					+	+	+	
KOBG	<i>Karayevia oblongella</i> (Oestrup) M. Aboal	V		+					+	

			SPRING							
CODE	TAXON	R.L.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
LDIS	<i>Luticola dismutica</i> (Hustedt) D.G. Mann	R	++	+						
LMUT	Luticola mutica (Kützing) D.G. Mann	?						+	+	
MAAT	Mayamaea atomus (Kutzing) Lange-Bertalot	?		++				++		
MCIR	<i>Meridion circulare</i> (Greville) C.A. Agardh var. <i>circulare</i>	?	+			+	+++	+	+	
MVAR	Melosira varians Agardh	?						+		
NAMP	Nitzschia amphibia Grunow f. amphibia	*							+	
NANT	Navicula antonii Lange-Bertalot	?	+	+						
NCPL	<i>Nitzschia capitellata</i> Hustedt in A. Schmidt <i>et al.</i>	?			+					
NCRY	Navicula cryptocephala Kützing	?			+		+	++		
NCTE	<i>Navicula cryptotenella</i> Lange-Bertalot	?						+	+	
NDIS	Nitzschia dissipata (Kützing) Grunow var. dissipata	?				+		++	+	
NFON	<i>Nitzschia fonticola</i> Grunow in Cleve et Möller	?						+		
NGRE	Navicula gregaria Donkin	?							+	
NHAN	Nitzschia hantzschiana Rabenhorst	*				+				
NIFR	<i>Nitzschia frustulum</i> (Kützing) Grunow var. <i>frustulum</i>	?					+	++		
NIPF	Nitzschia paleaeformis Hustedt	R	+							
NIPM	<i>Nitzschia perminuta</i> (Grunow) M. Peragallo	*						+		
NLAN	Navicula lanceolata (Agardh) Ehrenberg	?						+	+	
NLIN	<i>Nitzschia linearis</i> (Agardh) W.M. Smith var. <i>linearis</i>	?					++	+	+	
NPAL	Nitzschia palea (Kützing) W. Smith	?						+		
NPNI	Navicula pseudonivalis Bock	R						+		
NPSL	Navicula pseudolanceolata Lange-Bertalot	3						+		
NRAD	Navicula radiosa Kützing	?				+	+			
NREC	Nitzschia recta Hantzsch in Rabenhorst	?						+		
NRHY	Navicula rhynchocephala Kützing	?						+		
NTPT	Navicula tripunctata (O.F. Müller) Bory	?							+	

			SPRING							
CODE	TAXON	R.L.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
NYCO	Nitzschia costei Tudesque, Rimet & Ector								+	
PCHL	Psammothidium chlidanos (Hohn & Hellerman) Lange-Bertalot	3			+++					
PINT	Pinnularia interrupta W.M. Smith							+		
PLFR	Planothidium frequentissimum (Lange-Bertalot) Lange-Bertalot	?						++		
PLUN	Pinnularia lundii Hustedt var. lundii	*						+		
PMIC	Pinnularia microstauron (Ehr.) Cleve var. microstauron	V						+		
PSCA	Pinnularia subcapitata Gregory var. subcapitata	*				+			+	
PTLA	Planothidium lanceolatum (Brebisson ex Kützing) Lange-Bertalot	?	+	++	++	+	++		+++	
RSIN	Reimeria sinuata (Gregory) Kociolek & Stoermer	?		+		+		+	+	
RUNI	<i>Reimeria uniseriata</i> Sala Guerrero & Ferrario				+					
SANG	Surirella angusta Kützing	*					+	+		
SAPH	Surirella amphioxys W. Smith	*						+		
SBRE	Surirella brebissonii Krammer & Lange-Bertalot var. brebissonii	?						+		
SEMN	Sellaphora minima (Grunow) Mann	?		+			+	+	+	
SPUP	Sellaphora pupula (Kützing) Mereschkowksy						+	+		
SSEM	<i>Sellaphora seminulum</i> (Grunow) D.G. Mann	?						+		
STAN	Stauroneis anceps Ehrenberg	V						+		
STKR	Stauroneis kriegeri Patrick							+		
SUMI	Surirella minuta Brebisson	?							+	
UBIC	Ulnaria biceps (Kützing) Compère	G					+++	++	+	
UULN	Ulnaria ulna (Nitzsch.) Compère	*				+	+		+	
	TOTAL N. TAXA		18	20	12	31	24	52	38	

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