

Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima

Kingdom	Chromista
Phylum	Bacillariophyta
Class	Bacillariophyceae
Order	Bacillariales
Family	Bacillariaceae
Genus	Pseudo-nitzschia
Species	delicatissima
Authority	(P.T. Cleve) Heiden in Heiden & Kolbe, 1928

Description

Forms stepped chains. Two chloroplasts, one in each end, are seen in the cells. The cells are linear to lanceolate in valve view, and lanceolate with cut-off ends in girdle view. The valves have an eccentric raphe with a central nodule. Each stria has two rows of poroids. A cingulum with three bands.

.

Morphometrics

Morphometrics; Apical axis (heteropolar) 19-76 µm, transapical axis 1.5-2.0 µm, 19-26 fibulae and 35-40 interstriae in 10 µm, 8-12 poroids in 1 µm. First girdle band with 43-48 poroids in 10 µm.

Can be confused with other taxa in the delicatissima-complex, like *P. decipiens*, *P. arenysensis* etc

Distribution

Distribution outside the Arctic: Cosmopolitan distribution from tropical to polar waters.

References

Lundholm N, Moestrup Ø, Kotaki Y, Hoef-Emden K, Scholin C & Miller P. 2006. Inter- and intraspecific variation of the *Pseudo-nitzschia delicatissima* complex (Bacillariophyceae) illustrated by rRNA probes, morphological data and phylogenetic analyses. J. Phycol. 42:464-481.

Throndsen J. Hasle G.R. and Tangen K. 2007. *Phytoplankton of Norwegian coastal waters*. Almater Forlag AS. 341 pp