

Pseudo-nitzschia pseudodelicatissima

Kingdom	Chromista
Phylum	Bacillariophyta
Class	Bacillariophyceae
Order	Bacillariales
Family	Bacillariaceae
Genus	Pseudo-nitzschia
Species	pseudodelicatissima
Authority	(Hasle) Hasle, 1993
Description	

Forms stepped chains. Two chloroplasts, one in each end, are seen in the cells. The cells are linear in girdle and valve view. The valves have an eccentric raphe with a central nodule, regularly distributed fibulae and almost twice as many interstriae as fibulae. One row of poroids, and each poroid has two sectors. A cingulum with three bands.

Morphometrics

Morphometrics; Apical axis (heteropolar) 54-87 µm, transapical axis 0.9-1.6 µm, 20-25 (28) fibulae and 36-43 interstriae in 10 µm. Poroid density 5-6 in 1 µm. First girdle band with 48-55 poroids in 10 µm.

P. pseudodelicatissima can be confused with species in the pseudodelicatissima complex, like *P. cuspidata*, *P. calliantha*, *P. cuspidata*, *P. hasleana* etc, all having a valve width < 2 µm, a central nodule and 1 row of poroids.

Distribution

Globally distributed from tropical to polar waters.

References

Lundholm N, Moestrup Ø, Hasle GR & Hoef-Emden K. 2003. A study of the *P. pseudodelicatissima/cuspidata*-complex (Bacillariophyceae). What is *Pseudo-nitzschia pseudodelicatissima*? *Journal of Phycology* 39:797-813.

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