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© 2010 Bangladesh Association of Plant Taxonomists NITELLOPSIS OBTUSA (DESV.) J. GROVES :

**A NEW CHAROPHYTIC RECORD FOR BANGLADESH**

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Keywords: Nitellopsis obtusa; Characeae; New record; Bangladesh.

Hy established Nitellopsis Hy as a genus in 1889. Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves was described as Chara obtusa in 1809 by Desvaux. This genus includes three species, viz., N. obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, N. bulbifera C. Dont. and N. sarcularis Zaneveld (Wood and Imahori, 1965). Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, a macroalga is widespread throughout Europe and Asia from Scandinavia to Japan. Kundu (1929) initiated Charophyte research in the then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Then the Charophyte flora has been worked out by Kundu (1938), Agharkar and Kundu (1937), Islam and Sarma (1976), Zaman (2001), Aziz and Tanbir (2003) and Naz and Diba (2009). So far, four genera, namely Chara, Nitella, Lychnothamnus and Lamprothamnium have been described from different parts of Bangladesh. In the present investigation the genus Nitellopsis Hy and its species Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves has been recorded for the first time in Bangladesh. The plant materials were collected from a shallow water zone (10 cm depth of water) of the river Mahananda of Chapai-Nawabganj district. Fresh materials were freely displayed on a petridis with distilled water and photomicrographs were taken by SONY DSC W-55 under compound microscope (Model L-101). Specimens have been kept in the herbarium of Phycology and Limnology Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh and also preserved in Transeau`s solution (Transeau, 1951). Camera Lucida drawings were made at 25x, 50x, 60x, 100x and 150x magnifications. Air temperature and relative humidity of the sampling location were measured by a digital thermometer and a humidity meter (Model: HANNA), respectively. Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, Jour. Bot. 57: 127. 1919. [Chara obtusa Desvaux in Loiseleur-Deslongchamps, Not. Pl. Fl. France, p. 136. 1810. Nitellopsis stelligera (Bauer) Hy, Rev. Bot. 8: 46. 1890.] (Pl. 1, Figs A-L; Pl. 2, Figs 1-10) (Groves and Webster 1924, 3, Pl. 24, Figs. 1-8; Pal et al. 1962, 80, Figs. 171-175; Krause 1997, 128, Fig. 50: A-I; Langangen et al. 2002, 30, Fig. 20; Schubert and Blindow 2003, 216, Fig. 4.28.1: A-J). Common name: Starry stonewort. ! Corresponding author. E-mail: drsabrina\_naz@yahoo.comBangladesh J. Plant Taxon. 17(2): 203-207, 2010 (December) - Short communication © 2010 Bangladesh Association of Plant Taxonomists NITELLOPSIS OBTUSA (DESV.) J. GROVES : A NEW CHAROPHYTIC RECORD FOR BANGLADESH SABRINA NAZ1 , NASRIN JAHAN DIBA AND M. ZAMAN Department of Botany, University of Rajshahi, Rajshahi 6205, Bangladesh Keywords: Nitellopsis obtusa; Characeae; New record; Bangladesh. Hy established Nitellopsis Hy as a genus in 1889. Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves was described as Chara obtusa in 1809 by Desvaux. This genus includes three species, viz., N. obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, N. bulbifera C. Dont. and N. sarcularis Zaneveld (Wood and Imahori, 1965). Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, a macroalga is widespread throughout Europe and Asia from Scandinavia to Japan. Kundu (1929) initiated Charophyte research in the then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). Then the Charophyte flora has been worked out by Kundu (1938), Agharkar and Kundu (1937), Islam and Sarma (1976), Zaman (2001), Aziz and Tanbir (2003) and Naz and Diba (2009). So far, four genera, namely Chara, Nitella, Lychnothamnus and Lamprothamnium have been described from different parts of Bangladesh. In the present investigation the genus Nitellopsis Hy and its species Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves has been recorded for the first time in Bangladesh. The plant materials were collected from a shallow water zone (10 cm depth of water) of the river Mahananda of Chapai-Nawabganj district. Fresh materials were freely displayed on a petridis with distilled water and photomicrographs were taken by SONY DSC W-55 under compound microscope (Model L-101). Specimens have been kept in the herbarium of Phycology and Limnology Laboratory, Department of Botany, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh and also preserved in Transeau`s solution (Transeau, 1951). Camera Lucida drawings were made at 25x, 50x, 60x, 100x and 150x magnifications. Air temperature and relative humidity of the sampling location were measured by a digital thermometer and a humidity meter (Model: HANNA), respectively. Nitellopsis obtusa (Desv.) J. Groves, Jour. Bot. 57: 127. 1919. [Chara obtusa Desvaux in Loiseleur-Deslongchamps, Not. Pl. Fl. France, p. 136. 1810. Nitellopsis stelligera (Bauer) Hy, Rev. Bot. 8: 46. 1890.] (Pl. 1, Figs A-L; Pl. 2, Figs 1-10) (Groves and Webster 1924, 3, Pl. 24, Figs. 1-8; Pal et al. 1962, 80, Figs. 171-175; Krause 1997, 128, Fig. 50: A-I; Langangen et al. 2002, 30, Fig. 20; Schubert and Blindow 2003, 216, Fig. 4.28.1: A-J). Common name: Starry stonewort. ! Corresponding author. E-mail: drsabrina\_naz@yahoo.com