New species of *Cymbella* and *Placoneis* (Bacillariophyta) from late Pleistocene Fossil, China

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Abstract

This paper describes five new *Cymbella*, one new *Cymbopleura* and one new *Placoneis* species from the late Pleistocene of the Jianghan Plain in China, based on light–and scanning electron microscopy of valve morphology. The characteristic morphological features of the seven new species differ from known established taxa by valve shape, both the central portion and apices, length/breadth ratio, shape of the central area and presence or absence of stigmata. All six cymbelloid taxa are as yet found only in fossil deposits of the Jianghan Plain. The *Placoneis* species, however, is apparently conspecific with an extant population observed in Northern Myanmar (Burma, Southeast Asia).

Key words: new species, *Cymbella*, *Placoneis*, fossil, China

Introduction

Jianghan Plain is a typical flood plain located in the Central Yangtze area of China, composed of interfluvial lowlands, which become lakes or marshes after storing water. Quaternary sediments of the plain areas are the result of alternate fluvial and lacustrine conditions, and bed phase and flooded and lacustrine facies sedimentary deposits occur alternately. These deposits reflect alternating fluvial and lacustrine variances in the Jianghan Plain over the Quaternary period (Xie 2004).


Material and Methods

A Core was collected in 1991 from Jiangling county of Jianghan Palin, Hubei Province (30°11´18”N,
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References


