## Algal Flora of Jagadishpur Tal, Kapilvastu, Nepal

Shiva Kumar Rai<sup>\*</sup> and Shristey Paudel Phycology Research Lab, Department of Botany, Post Graduate Campus Tribhuvan University, Biratnagar, Nepal \**E-mail: sk.khaling@gmail.com* 

#### Abstract

Algal flora of Jagadishpur reservoir has been studied in the year 2015-16. A total 124 algae belonging to 58 genera and 9 classes were enumerated. Out of these, 35 algae were reported as new to Nepal. Genus *Cosmarium* has maximum number of species as usual. The rare but interesting algae reported from this reservoir were *Bambusina brebissonii, Crucigenia apiculata, Dinobryon divergens, Encyonema silesiacum, Lemmermanniella* cf. *uliginosa, Quadrigula chodatii, Rhabdogloea linearis, Schroederia indica, Stenopterobia intermedia, Teilingia granulata* and *Triplastrum abbreviatum.* Algal flora of Jagadishpur reservoir is rich and diverse. It needs further studies to update algal documentation and conservation.

Keywords: Cyanobacteria, Diatoms, Green algae, New to Nepal, Quadrigula chodatii

### Introduction

Literature revealed that algal studies in Nepal have been carried out by various workers from different places in different time though extensive exploration is still incomplete. Most of the workers were confined in and around Kathmandu valley and the Himalayan regions. Western parts of the country is least studied. Algae of various lakes and reservoirs of Nepal have been studied: Phewa and Begnas Lakes (Hickel, 1973; Nakanishi, 1986), Rara lake (Watanabe, 1995; Jüttner et al., 2018), Taudaha Lake (Bhatta et al., 1999), Mai Pokhari Lake (Rai, 2005, 2009), Koshi Tappu (Simkhada et al., 2006, Rai & Mishra, 2008; Jha & Kargupta, 2012; Rai, 2013a), Bees Hazar Lake (Rai et al., 2008; Rai, 2013b), Betna Pond (Rai, 2011), Chimdi Lake (Rai & Rai, 2012), Gokyo Lake (Rai et al., 2012; Mohan et al., 2018), Panch Pokhari (Krstiæ et al., 2013), Rajarani Lake, Dhankuta (Shrestha & Rai, 2017), Baghjhoda Pond (Rajopadhyaya et al., 2017); Hasina Wetland (Rai & Rai, 2018), Raja-Rani Lake, Letang (Godar & Rai, 2018). According to Baral (1999), only 687 taxa of algae belonging to 150 genera and 50 families are enumerated in Nepal. The extensive exploration throughout the nation is still to be carried out. Now, the total alga reported from Nepal is 995 (Prasad, 2011).

Algal flora of Jagadishpur reservoir has not been studied before. Thus, it is the preliminary work on algae for this reservoire.

### **Materials and Methods**

#### Study area

Jagadishpur reservoir (27°37'N and 83°06'E, alt. 197 m msl) lies in the Kapilvastu Municipality 9, Kapilvastu District, Lumbini zone, Central Nepal; about 10 km north from Taulihawa, the district headquarters. The reservoir was declared as a Ramsar site in 2003 (MFSC, 2014). It was constructed in the early 1970s over the Jakhira Lake for irrigation purposes. It is the largest man-made irrigation reservoir in Nepal, with a core area of 157 h, has the capacity to store 4.75 cubic million litres of water and irrigate 350 h agricultural lands. The water depth varies from a maximum of 5-7 m to a minimum of 2-3 m (Shah et al., 2010). The water in the reservoir is fed from the nearby Banganga River, which has a catchment area in the Chure hills.

The area is characterized by the tropical monsoon climate with hot and rainy summer and cool and dry winter (DNPWC & IUCN, 2003). The average annual temperature ranges from 16°-26°C with a maximum of 43°C in the summer to a minimum of 4.5°C in the winter. Its average annual rainfall is 1,850 mm, about 80% of which falls during the

monsoon season, from mid-June to mid-September.

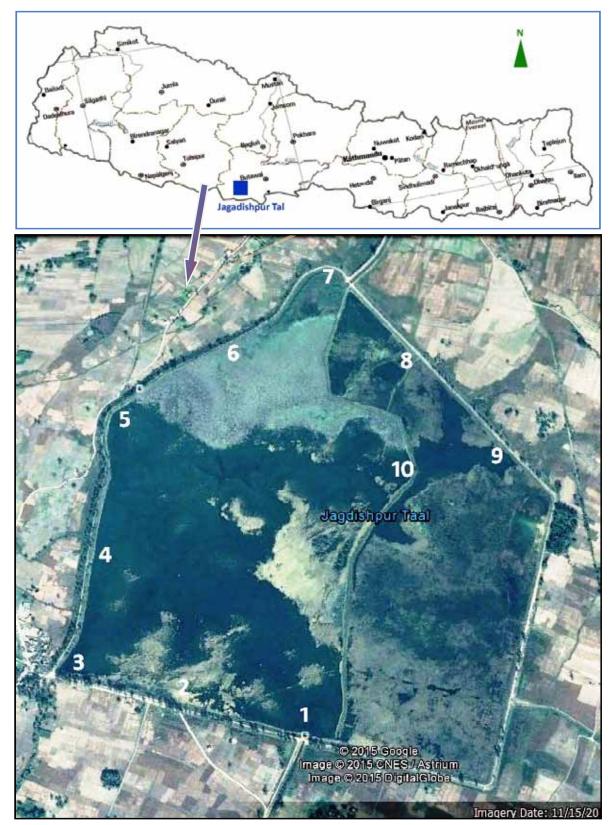


Figure 1: Jagadishpur reservoir showing algae sampling sites

## Algae collection and identification

Algal samples were collected from 10 peripheral sites of the reservoir, three times (August, November, February) at an interval of three months in the year 2015-16. Algal were collected by using plankton net (mesh size 20  $\mu$ m) for planktonic forms and squeezing submerged leaves and roots of aquatic macrophytes for epiphytic forms. The materials were preserved in 4% formaldehyde solution in air tight polylab bottles with proper tagging and labeling then brought to the laboratory for further examination.

Samples were screened then microphotography was done for each species under 40X and 100X objectives using Olympus Ch20i microscope. Taxa were identified consulting various articles, literatures and monographs (Prescott, 1951; Desikachary, 1959; Scott & Prescott, 1961; Philipose, 1967; Croasdale et al., 1994; Bey & Ector, 2013; Karthik et al., 2013; McGregor, 2013; Krizmanic et al., 2015). All the collected materials have been deposited in the Phycology Research Lab, Department of Botany, P.G. Campus Biratnagar.

## **Results and Discussion**

A total 124 algae belonging to 58 genera, 36 families, 22 orders and 9 classes have been reported from Jagadishpur Reservoir, Kapilvastu, Nepal (Table 1). Among these, 35 species were new to Nepal.

Among the classes, about half of algal species reported are belonged to Conjugatophyceae and is followed by Chlorophyceae, Cyanophyceae, Bacillariophyceae, Trebouxiophyceae and so on (Fig. 2). Glaucophyceae and Chrysophyceae were represented by single taxa each.

	Algae	Family	Order	Class	Phylum
1.	Aphanocapsa elegans	Merismopediaceae	Synechococcales	Cyanophyceae	Cyanobacteria
2.	Merismopedia elegans				
3.	<i>Lemmermanniella</i> cf. <i>uliginosa</i> <sup>*+</sup>	Synechococcaceae			
4.	Rhabdogloea linearis				
5.	<i>Woronichinia</i> cf <i>tropicalis</i> <sup>*</sup>	Coelosphaeriaceae			
6.	Chroococcus minutus	Chroococcaceae	Chroococcales		
7.	Gomphosphaeria aponina	Gomphosphaeriaceae			
8.	<i>Cyanothece</i> sp. <sup>*</sup>	Cyanothecaceae	Oscillatoriales		
9.	Oscillatoria amoena	Oscillatoriaceae			
10.	O. chlorine				
11.	O. limosa				
12.	O. princeps				
13.	Lyngbya majuscula				
14.	Spirulina subsalsa	Spirulinaceae	Spirulinales	-	
15.	Cylindrospermum muscicola v. longisporum $^{*}$	Nostocaceae	Nostocales		
	Anabaena unispora v. crassa <sup>*</sup>				
17.	Gloeotrichia raciborskii v. kashiensis	Gloeotrichiaceae			
18.	G. raciborskii v. longispora <sup>*</sup>				
19.	Scytonema bohneri <sup>*</sup>	Scytonemataceae			
20.	Pandorina morum	Volvocaceae	Chlamydomo nadales		Chlorophyta
21.	Eudorina elegans				
22.	Sphaerocystis schroeteri	Sphaerocystidaceae			
23.	Oedogonium abbreviatum <sup>*</sup>	Oedogoniaceae	Oedogoniales	lyceae	
24.	O. decipiens <sup>*</sup>				
25.	Schroederia indica <sup>*+</sup>	Schroederiaceae	Sphaeropleales	Chlorophyceae	
26.	Pediastrum tetras v. tetraodon	Hydrodictyaceae			
27.	Tetraedron tumidulum <sup>*</sup>				
28.	Ankistrodesmus falcatus	Selenastraceae			
	A. spiralis				
30.	Quadrigula chodatii <sup>+</sup>				

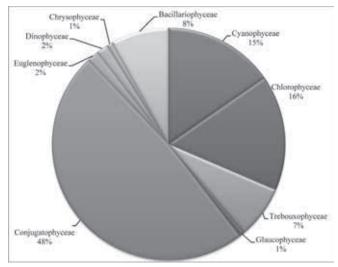
Table 1: List of freshwater algae reported from Jagadishpur Reservoir (classification is based on Guiry & Guiry, 2018)

Algae	Family	Order	Class	Phylum
31. Kirchneriella lunaris				
32. K. obese				
33. Coelastrum cambricum	Scenedesmaceae			
34. Scenedesmus abundans				
35. S. acuminatus				
36. S. acutiformis				
37. S. arcuatus v. platydiscus				
38. S. bijugatus v. alternans				
39. S. bijugatus v. gravenitzii				
40. Crucigenia apiculata	Trebouxiophyceae	Trebouxiophyceae		
*	incertae sedis	ordo incertae sedis	- O	
41. Zoochlorella parasitica <sup>*</sup>	Chlorellaceae	Chlorellales	Trebouxiophyceae	
42. Gloeotaenium loitlesbergerianum	Oocystaceae		hyc	
43. Oocystis elliptica <sup>*</sup>			lqo	
44. O. eremosphaeria			uxi	
45. O. lacustris			sbo	
46. O. macrospora			Tré	
47. Nephrocytium agardhianum				
48. <i>N. lunatum</i> West				
49. <i>Glaucocystis nostochinearum</i> <sup>*</sup>	Glaucocystaceae	Glaucocystales	Glauco	Glauco
50. Closterium dianae	Closteriaceae	Desmidiales	phyceae	phyta
51. C. ehrenbergii				
52. <i>C. kuetzingii</i>				
53. C. rectimarginatum				
54. Pleurotaenium trabecula	Desmidiaceae			
55. Triplastrum abbreviatum				
56. Euastrum bidentatum				
57. E. elegans				
58. E. spinulosum				
59. Micrasterias pinnatifida				
60. Actinotaenium cucurbitinum <sup>*</sup>			ematophyceae)	
61. A. diplosporum			yce	
62. A. cf turgidum			hq	
63. A. wollei			lato	
64. Cosmarium bengalense*			em	
65. C. connatum			/gn	ŋyt
66. C. contractum v. pachydermum			ĹŹ.	Charophyta
67. C. dorsitruncatum			ae	har
68. C. granatum			yce	U U
69. <i>C. impressulum</i>			Conjugatophyceae (Zygn	
70. <i>C. lundellii</i>			ato	
71. <i>C. lundellii</i> v. <i>circulare</i>			jug	
72. <i>C. maculatiforme</i>			jon	
73. <i>C</i> . cf margaritatum				
74. <i>C. obliquum</i> <sup>*</sup>				
75. C. obtusatum				
76. C. portianum				
77. <i>C</i> . cf <i>pseudoornatum</i> <sup>*</sup>				
78. <i>C. pseudoretusum</i>				
79. <i>C. punctulatum</i> v. <i>subpunctulatum</i>				
80. <i>C. quadratum</i>				
<b>T</b>			1	1
81. C. quadrum				

Algae	Family	Order	Class	Phylum
83. C. seelyanum	v			Ť
84. C. sportella <sup>*</sup>				
85. C. subcrenatum				
86. C. subprotumidum v. gregoryi				
87. C. subquadratum <sup>*</sup>				
88. C. subspeciosum v. validius				
89. C. venustum v. basichondrum <sup>*</sup>				
90. C. venustum v. induratum <sup>*</sup>				
91. Staurodesmus convergens v. convergens				
92. S. cuspidatus				
93. S. cuspidatus v. divergens <sup>*</sup>				
94. S. dejectus v. dejectus				
95. S. dickiei				
96. S. unicornis v. unicornis <sup>*</sup>				
97. Staurastrum avicula v. avicula				
98. S. cyrtocerum v. inflexum <sup>*</sup>				
99. S. disputatum v. sinense				
100. S. lapponicum <sup>*</sup>				
101. S. manfeldtii				
102. S. orbiculare				
103. S. setigerum				
104. S. cf. tetracerum				
105. S. tohopekaligense v. tohopekaligense f. minu				
106. Teilingia granulata				
107. Desmidium swartzii				
108. Bambusina brebissonii				
109. Mougeotia sphaerocarpa <sup>*</sup>	Zygnemataceae	Zygnematales		
110. Euglena polymorpha <sup>*</sup>	Euglenaceae	Euglenales	Eugleno	Eugleno
111. E. sanguinea			phyceae	phyta
112. Glenodinium borgei	Glenodiniaceae	Peridiniales	Dino	
113. G. pulvisculus <sup>*</sup>			phyceae	Miozoa
114. Dinobryon divergens	Dinobryaceae	Chromulinales	Chryso	Ochro
	Dinoorjuocuo	Chiomanaios	phyceae	phyta
115. Eunotia camelus <sup>*</sup>	Eunotiaceae	Eunotiales	phyceae	pnym
115. Eurona cametas 116. E. flexuosa <sup>*</sup>		Lunouales		
	Cacanaidaaaaa	Cocconeidales	je –	
<ul><li>117. Cocconeis placentula</li><li>118. Navicula radiosa</li></ul>	Cocconeidaceae	Naviculales	Bacillariophyceae	Bacillariophyta
	Naviculaceae Pinnulariaceae	inaviculates	yhy	hqc
119. Pinnularia acrosphaeria		Cymbellales	liop	aric
120. Cymbella cf lange-bertalotii <sup>*</sup>	Cymbellaceae	Cymbenales	llar	silla
121. Encyonema silesiacum <sup>*</sup>	Gomphonemataceae	Dhomolo distan	aci	Вас
122. Epithemia adnata	Rhopalodiaceae	Rhopalodiales	В	
123. Rhopalodia gibba	Q	C	_	
124. Stenopterobia intermedia <sup>*+</sup>	Surirellaceae	Surirellales		

(\* new record for Nepal, + species occurs rarely in the study area)

Among the classes, about half of algal species reported are belonged to Conjugatophyceae and is followed by Chlorophyceae, Cyanophyceae, Bacillariophyceae, Trebouxiophyceae and so on (Fig. 2). Glaucophyceae and Chrysophyceae were represented by single taxa each. Among the identified genera, *Cosmarium* has maximum species as usual (Rajopadhyaya et al., 2017; Rai & Rai, 2018; Godar & Rai, 2018), representing by 27 taxa (Table 1). Similarly, genera *Staurastrum* is represented by 9 taxa followed by *Scenedesmus* and *Staurodesmus* (6 each); *Actinotaenium, Closterium, Oscillatoria* and



**Figure 2:** Class-wise representation of total algal taxa of Jagadishpur reservoir

Oocystis (4 each); and Euastrum (3). Genera representing by single species are Anabeana, Aphanocapsa, Bambusina, Chroococcus, Cocconeis, Coelastrum, Crucigenia, Cyanothece, Cylindrospermum, Cymbella, Desmidium, Dinobryon, Encyonema, Epithemia, Eudorina, Glaucocystis, Gloeotaenium, Gomphosphaeria, Lemmermanniella, Lyngbya, Merismopedia, Micrasterias, Mougetia, Navicula, Pandorina, Pinnularia, Pleurotaenium, Pediastrum, Quadriguta, Rhabdogloea, Rhopalodia, Schroederia, Scytonema, Sphaerocystis, Spirulina, Stenopterobia, Teilinga, Tetraedron, Triplastrum, Woronichinia, and Zoochlorella (Table 1).

In the resent study, maximum algae (41 genera) were reported during second (November) and third (February) collections than in the first (August) (33 genera). It shows that algae occurs more requently in the pre and post winter than in the flooding summer. The seasonal change may influence the algal growth.

The common genera found in all three collections were Anabaena, Ankistrodesmus, Aphanocapsa, Chroococcus, Closterium, Coelastrum, Cosmarium, Cymbella, Desmidium, Euastrum, Eunotia, Glaucocystis, Gloeotaenium, Merismopedia, Navicula, Oscillatoria, Pediastrum, Scenedesmus, Staurastrum, Tripastrum and Woronichinia. Algal genera reported only in first collection were Bambusina, Crucigenia, Gomphosphaeria, Lyngbya, Staurodesmus, Stenopterobia and Teilinga; only in collection second were Actinotaenium, Cylindrospermum, Encyonema, Nephrocytium, Quadrigula, Rhabdogloea, Spirulina and Tetraedron; and only in third collection were Cocconeis, Cyanothece, Dinobryon, Epithemia, Glenodinium, Gloeotrichia, Lemmermanniella, Oedogonium, Pandorina and Spirogyra. Genera Eudorina, Kirchneriella and Pinnularia were found both in first and second collections but not in third collection. Similarly, Mougeotia, Oocystis, Pleurotaenium, Rhopalodia, Schroederia, Scytonema, Sphaerocystis and Zoochlorella were found in both second and third collections but not in first collection. Euglena was absent in second collection but found in first and third collections.

The dominant genera in first collection were *Anabaena* and *Desmidium*; in second collection were *Navicula, Desmidium* and *Cymbella*; and in third collection were *Cymbella, Cosmarium* and *Navicula.* 

The genera distributed in all 10 sites were *Navicula* in first collection; *Cosmarium, Cymbella, Navicula* and *Rhopalodia* in second collection; and *Chroococcus, Cosmarium, Merismopedia, Navicula, Rhopalodia*, and *Scenedesmus* in third collection.

In first collection, site 3 was richest site representing a total 21 genera and site 1 was poorest with only 8 genera. Similarly, in second collection, site 6 was richest site representing a total 24 genera and site 10 was poorest with only 8 genera. In third collection, site 7 was richest site representing a total 23 genera and site 4 was poorest with 16 genera (Figure 3).

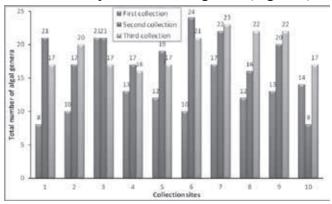


Figure 3: Site-wise algal genera reported in different collections

Distribution was maximus of Conjugatophyceae during first and second collections, Cyanophyceae during second and third collections, and Chlorophyceae during second collection (Figure 4). Euglenophyceae were absent in second collection, and Dinophyceae and Chrysophyceae were absent in first and second collections.

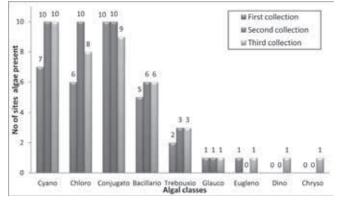


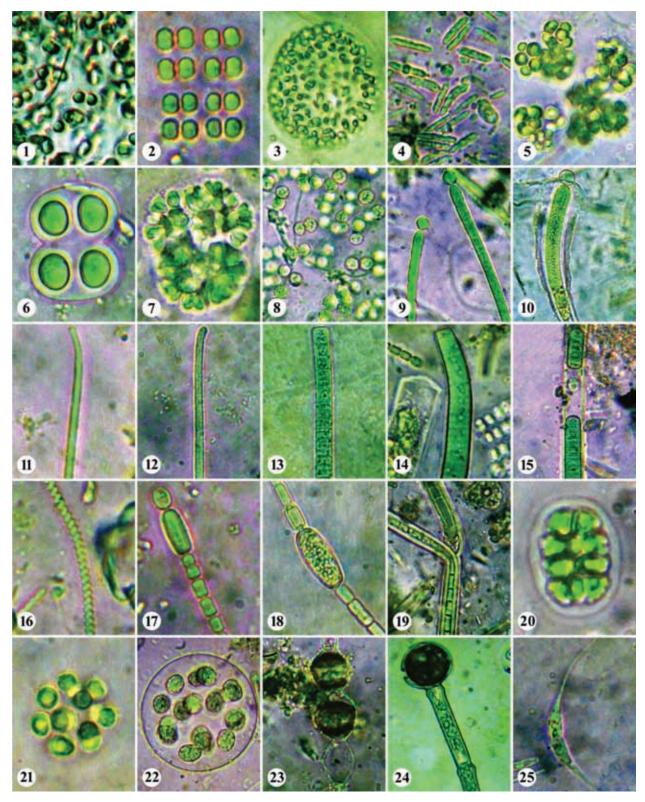
Figure 4: Class-wise algal genera reported in different collections

Class Conjugatophyceae were found in maximum sites during first and second collections, Cyanophyceae were found in maximum sites during second and third collections, and Chlorophyceae were found in maximum sites during second collection (Figure 4). Euglenophyceae were absent in second collection, and Dinophyceae and Chrysophyceae were absent in first and second collections.

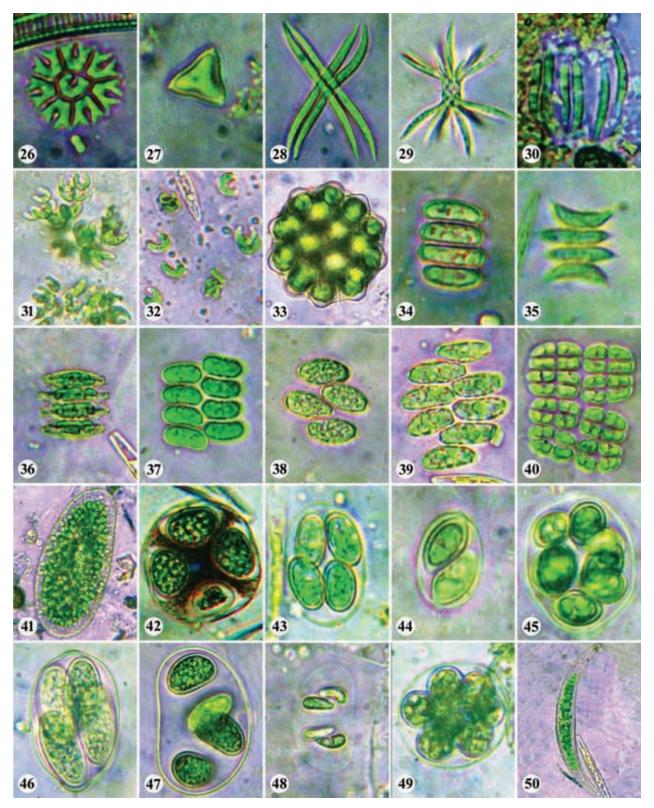
The rare but interesting algae reported from this reservoir were *Bambusina brebissonii*, *Crucigenia* 

apiculata, Dinobryon divergens, Encyonema silesiacum, Lemmermanniella cf. uliginosa, Quadrigula chodatii, Rhabdogloea linearis, Schroederia indica, Stenopterobia intermedia, Teilingia granulata and Triplastrum abbreviatum. These species have peculiar morphology and were reported little from few habitats only throughout my previous studies.

A total 35 algae have been reported as new to Nepal from Jagadishpur Reservoir. They were Lemmermanniella cf uliginosa, Woronichinia cf tropicalis, Cyanothece sp., Gloeotrichia raciborskii var. longispora, Cylindrospermum muscicola var. longispora, Anabaena unispora var. crassa, Scytonema bohneri, Oedogonium abbreviatum, O. decipiens, Schroederia indica, Tetraedron tumidulum, Zoochlorella parasitica, Oocystis Glaucocystis nostochinearum, elliptica, Actinotaenium cucurbitinum, Cosmarium bengalense, C. obliquum, C. cf pseudoornatum, C. reniforme, C. sportella, C. subquadratum, C. venustum var. basichondrum, C. venustum var. induratum, Staurodesmus cuspidatus var. divergens, S. unicornis var. unicornis, Staurastrum cyrtocerum var. inflexum, S. lapponicum, Mougeotia sphaerocarpa, Euglena polymorpha, Glenodinium pulvisculus, Eunotia camelus, E. flexuosa, Cymbella cf lange-bertalotii, Encyonema silesiacum, Stenopterobia intermedia.



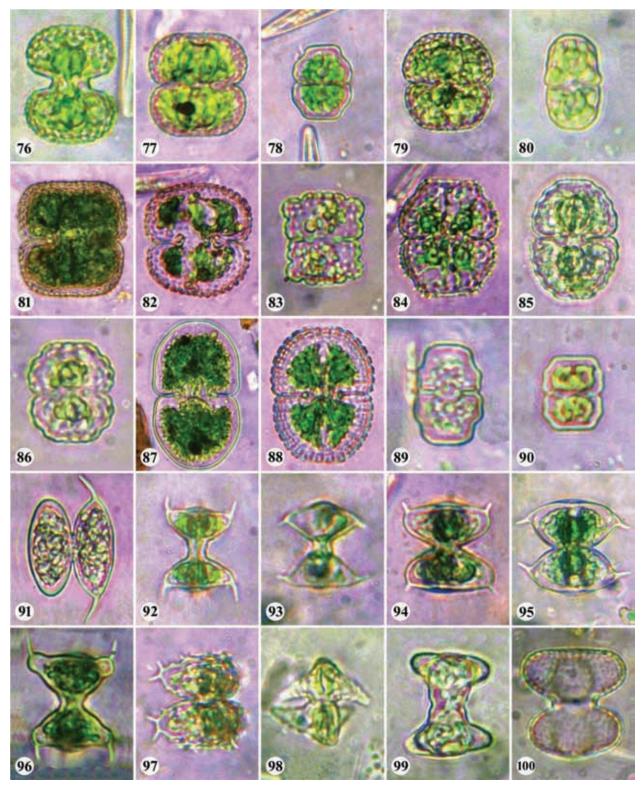
Figures 5: 1. Aphanocapsa elegans 2. Merismopedia elegans 3. Lemmermanniella cf. uliginosa 4. Rhabdogloea linearis 5. Woronichinia cf. tropicalis 6. Chroococcus minutus 7. Gomphosphaeria aponina 8. Cyanothece sp 9. Gloeotrichia raciborskii var. kashiensis 10. G. raciborskii var. longispora 11. Oscillatoria amoena 12. O. chlorine 13. O. limosa 14. O. princeps 15. Lyngbya majuscula 16. Spirulina subsalsa 17. Cylindrospermum muscicola var. longispora 18. Anabaena unispora var. crassa 19. Scytonema bohneri 20. Pandorina morum 21. Eudorina elegans 22. Sphaerocystis schroeteri 23. Oedogonium abbreviatum 24. O. decipiens 25. Schroederia indica



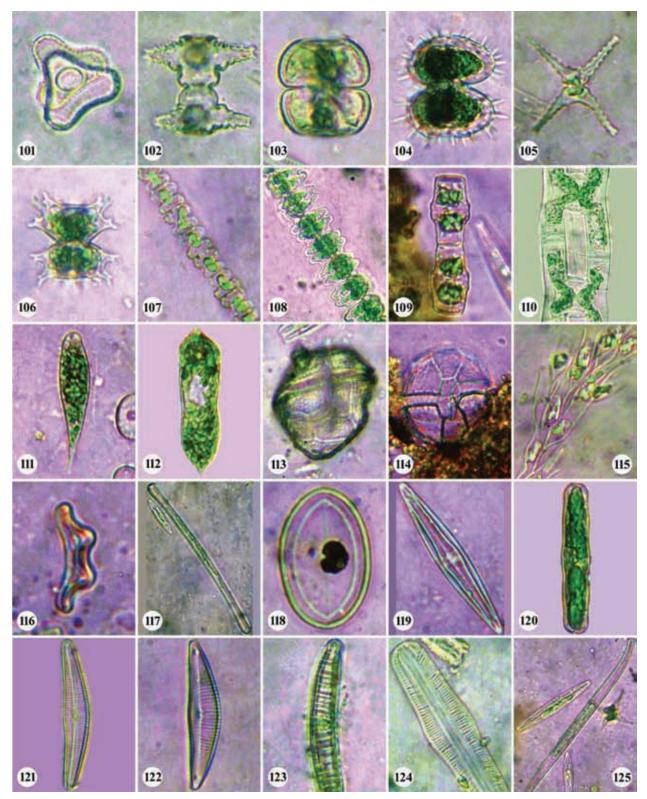
**Figures 6:** 26. Pediastrum tetras var. tetraodon 27. Tetraedron tumidulum 28. Ankistrodesmus falcatus 29. A. spiralis 30. Quadrigula chodatii 31. Kirchneriella lunaris 32. K. obesa 33. Coelastrum cambricum 34. Scenedesmus abundans 35. S. acuminatus 36. S. acutiformis 37. S. arcuatus var. platydiscus 38. S. bijugatus var. alternans 39. S. bijugatus var. gravenitzii 40. Crucigenia apiculata 41. Zoochlorella parasitica 42. Gloeotaenium loitlesbergereanum 43. Oocystis elliptica 44. O. eremosphaeria 45. O. lacustris 46. O. macrospora 47. Nephrocytium agardhianum 48. N. lunatum 49. Glaucocystis nostochinearum 50. Closterium dianae



**Figures 7:** 51. Closterium ehrenbergii 52. C. kuetzingii var. kuetzingii 53. C. rectimarginatum 54. Pleurotaenium trabecula 55. Triplastrum abbreviatum 56. Euastrum bidentatum 57. E. elegans 58. E. spinulosum 59. Micrasterias pinnatifida 60. Actinotaenium cucurbitinum 61. A. diplosporum 62. A. cf turgidum 63. A. wollei 64. Cosmarium bengalense 65. C. connatum 66. C. contractum var. pachydermum 67. C. dorsitruncatum 68. C. granatum 69. C. impressulum 70. C. lundellii 71. C. lundellii var. circulare 72. C. maculatiforme 73. C. cf margaritatum 74. C. obliquum 75. C. obtusatum



Figures 8: 76. Cosmarium portianum 77. C. cf pseudoornatum 78. C. pseudoretusum 79. C. punctulatum var. subpunctulatum 80. C. quadratum 81. C. quadrum var. quadrum 82. C. reniforme var. reniforme 83. C. seelyanum 84. C. sportella 85. C. subcrenatum 86. C. subprotumidum var. gregoryi 87. C. subquadratum var. subquadratum 88. C. subspeciosum var. validius 89. C. venustum var. basichondrum 90. C. venustum var. induratum 91. Staurodesmus convergens var. convergens 92. S. cuspidatus var. divergens 93. S. cuspidatus 94. S. dejectus var. dejectus 95. S. dickiei var. dickiei 96. S. unicornis var. unicornis 97. Staurastrum avicula var. avicula 98. S. cyrtocerum var. inflexum 99. S. disputatum var. sinense 100. S. lapponicum



**Figures 9 :** 101. Staurastrum lapponicum 102. S. manfeldtii 103. S. orbiculare 104. S. setigerum 105. S. cf. tetracerum 106. S. tohopekaligense var. tohopekaligense f. minus 107. Teilingia granulata 108. Desmidium swartzii 109. Bambusina brebissonii 110. Mougeotia sphaerocarpa 111. Euglena polymorpha 112. E. sanguinea 113. Glenodinium borgei 114. G. pulvisculus 115. Dinobryon divergens 116. Eunotia camelus 117. E. flexuosa 118. Cocconeis placentula 119. Navicula radiosa 120. Pinnularia acrosphaeria 121. Cymbella lange-bertalotii 122. Encyonema silesiacum 123. Epithemia adnata 124. Rhopalodia gibba 125. Stenopterobia intermedia

# Conclusion

A total 124 algae have been reported from Jagadishpur reservoir out of which 35 algae were new record for Nepal. The reservoir was dominated by the genus Cosmarium with 27 species. Algae were rich during the month of November and February. The common algae present throughout the study period were Anabaena, Ankistrodesmus, Aphanocapsa, Chroococcus, Closterium, Coelastrum, Cosmarium, Cymbella, Desmidium, Euastrum, Eunotia, Glaucocystis, Gloeotaenium, Merismopedia, Navicula, Oscillatoria, Pediastrum, Scenedesmus, Staurastrum, Tripastrum and Woronichinia. The dominant algae of this reservoir were Anabaena and Desmidium (August); Navicula, Desmidium and Cymbella (November); and Cymbella, Cosmarium and Navicula (February). The rare but interesting algae of this reservoir were Bambusina brebissonii, Crucigenia apiculata, Dinobryon divergens, Encyonema silesiacum, Lemmermanniella cf. uliginosa, Quadrigula chodatii, Rhabdogloea linearis, Schroederia indica, Stenopterobia intermedia, Teilingia granulata and Triplastrum abbreviatum. Algal flora of Jagadishpur reservoir is rich and diverse. It needs further extensive exploration to document and conserve the algal flora.

# Acknowledgements

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