

MORPHOLOGY AND OCCURRENCE OF A MARINE EPIZOIC DIATOM *FALCULA HYALINA* FROM WATERS OF FUJIAN AND GUANGDONG, CHINA

Ya-Hui Gao^{1,2}, Xue-Song Li¹, Wen-Zhong Wu¹, Chang-Ping Chen¹, Jun-Rong Liang¹ & Dong-Hai Zhao¹

¹School of Life Sciences, Xiamen University

²State Key Laboratory of Marine Environmental Science, Xiamen University

Falcula M.Voigt was first described by Voigt in 1961 and five species have been reported so far. However, the genus *Falcula* has never been reported in domestic literatures in China except that Voigt (1961) mentioned in his paper about the description of the new species *F. paracelsiana* whose sample was collected from Paracel and Hainan Islands in the South China Sea. *Falcula hyalina* Takano was first observed as an epizoic diatom in a marine copepod *Acartia steueri* by Takano (1983) in the Japanese sea area and was found to be a widespread epizoic species in temperate and subtropical inshore waters of the Indian, Pacific, Atlantic oceans and the Gulf of Mexico.

In a study of the diatom species composition in mariculture waters in Quanzhou City (N24°56', E118°36'), Fujian Province, and in mangrove waters in Futian Mangrove Conservation Zone (N22°32', E114°03'-05'), Shenzhen, Guangdong Province, China, *F. hyalina*, was observed using light and electron microscope which was first found for its occurrence in China. This species occurs in waters while tends to attach to marine copepods. The taxonomic characteristics, ecological habit and distribution of *F. hyalina* were described in the present paper and the LM and EM photographs of the species were also presented.

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