

THE GENUS *STAURONEIS* ON LIVINGSTON AND JAMES ROSS ISLAND (MARITIME ANTARCTIC REGION)

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During a survey of the limnoterrestrial diatom flora of two Antarctic islands – Livingston Island (Southern Atlantic Ocean) and James Ross Island (Northwestern Weddell Sea), a relatively high diversity in the genus *Stauroneis* was observed. A total of 11 *Stauroneis* taxa has been recorded. Based on literature data (e.g. Lange-Bertalot et al. 2003, Van de Vijver et al. 2004, Zidarova et al. 2009), three of the taxa have already been known from other islands in the Southern Atlantic Ocean: *S. husvikensis* and *S. pseudoschimanskii* were recently described from South Georgia, and *S. nikolayi* is so far only known from Livingston Island and Signy Island. One species, *S. latistauros*, is shared between the islands in the Southern Atlantic Ocean and the Antarctic continent, whereas *S. pseudomuriella* is common for the islands in the Southern Indian and Southern Atlantic Ocean. Two taxa, *S. obtusa* and *S. subgracilior*, have been found outside the Antarctic region. The remaining four taxa have an unclear taxonomic position. For one species only a few valves have been observed, and therefore it was assigned as *Stauroneis* sp. 1. Three taxa, provisionally named *S. aff. acidoclinata*, *S. aff. jarensis* and *S. aff. reichardtii*, could not be identified using the currently available literature. In order to clarify their correct taxonomic position, the Antarctic populations of these species were compared with the type populations of *S. acidoclinata*, *S. jarensis* and *S. reichardtii* from Europe.

The present poster illustrates the high *Stauroneis* species diversity and discusses their taxonomic position. All taxa are studied in light and, where appropriate, scanning electron microscopy. Notes on their biogeography are added.

References:

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