

PHYLOGENY OF GENUS *SPICATICRIBRA* AND RELATED TAXA

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The genus *Spicaticribra* was described based on the type species *S. kingstonii* by Johansen et al. (2008). This species was found in Fontana Lake, a reservoir in the Tennessee River drainage, North Carolina, U.S.A. The relationship of this genus with other genera was uncertain.

This species was also found in the southern part of Japan including Okinawa Island. A very similar species, *Thalassiosira rudis* Tremarin, Ludwig, Becker et Torgan described from South America, was found at Mae Jork Lung reservoir, Chiang Mai area, Thailand, and transferred to the genus *Spicaticribra* (Tuji et al. 2012). Only two species belong the genus now.

Tuji et al. (2012) reported the phylogenetic position of *S. kingstonii* using a Japanese strain and the 18S rDNA region. The phylogenetic tree using the 18S rDNA shows that the origin of *S. kingstonii* exists in the *Cyclotella meneghiniana* species complex clade.

However, the branch length is extremely long, and phylogenetic research using more genetic regions was essential. In this study, we examined the phylogenetic position of *S. kingstonii* using multi-gene analysis (SSU, ITS, LSU, rbcL, psbA, psbC).