# Species Diversity of Marine Planktonic Diatoms around Chang Islands, Trat Province

Kesorn Teanpisut\* and Sunan Patarajinda

#### **ABSTRACT**

In March 2003, the marine planktonic diatoms were collected from 27 stations around Chang Islands, Trat Province in the Gulf of Thailand. Two types of the plankton net were used as filtering 100 litres of seawater through 20 µm mesh size and obliquely towing 70 µm mesh size at 2 meters above the seafloor. The diatoms was made by using light microscope (LM) and scanning electron microscope (SEM). The results showed that at least 70 genera and 140 species were identified under the Order of Biddulphiales (centric diatoms, including 38 genera and 93 species) and Bacillariales (pennate diatoms, including 32 genera and 47 species). From this study, species *Stictocyclus varicus* A. Mann was remarked as a first record in Thai's waters, and *Asteromphalus robustus* Castracane was remarked as a first record in the Gulf of Thailand.

**Key words:** Chang islands, gulf of Thailand, marine planktonic diatoms, centric diatoms, pennate diatoms.

### INTRODUCTION

The diatoms are one of the most important phytoplankton as a primary producer of marine ecosystem. They are estimated to produce 20-25 % of the world total net primary production (Werner, 1977). They play a key role in mariculture and sea farming, for example *Chaetoceros calcitans* and *Skeletonema costatum* have been used for feeding larvae of marine organism. The suitable condition for each species of diatom is varied, and it can be used as an indicator of natural waters. For example in the coastal area in Peru, *Thalassiosira* and *Chaetoceros* can be found in an abundant area while *Rhizosolenia* and *Planktoniella* would be found in off shore areas which consider as in the low productive area.

(Wongrat, 1999) They were also used for evaluation of water quality and pollution. The earliest study of marine diatoms in Thailand was done by Ostenfeld (1902) and Östrup (1904) around Chang Islands and the adjacent waters in Trat Province. The respectively previous study in the same areas was done by Wongrat *et al.* (2003) and Thongbor (2004).

Recently, Chang Islands have been promoted as tourist desination in Thailand, expecting income for the country, many development has been done in response to the government policy. This is the main cause of the environmental impact to the ecosystem so that data of species composition and their distribution of phytoplankton are very important.

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The present study is the investigation of species composition and distribution of marine diatom around Chang Islands. The objective of this study was to identify marine planktonic diatom species and their distribution, and to investigate of species composition and distribution of marine diatoms around Chang Islands. This data can be used as the biodiversity database that will be benefit for monitoring of the environmental change.

## METERIALS AND METHODS

The samples of these plankton were

collected in March 2003 from 27 stations (Figure 1) by filtering 100 liters of seawater through 20 µm mesh size and obliquely towing 70 µm mesh size plankton net at 2 meters above the seafloor. The samples were identified by using light microscope (LM) and scanning electron microscope (SEM) and the documents of Allen and Cupp (1935), Hustedt (1959), Hendy (1964), Peragallo (1965), Simonsen (1974), Foged (1975), Jensen (1985) Dexiang *et al.* (1985), Sundström (1986), Ricard (1987), Round *et al.* (1990), Hasle and Syvertsen (1997), Wongrat (1999) and Lundholm and Moestrup (2003).

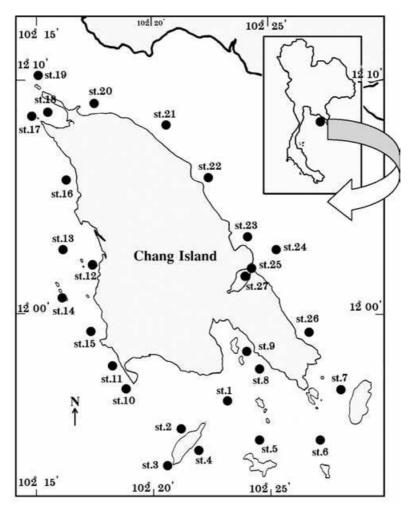


Figure 1 Study sites at Change Islands, Trat Province.

The distribution of marine planktonic diatoms will be considered as the species frequently found based on calculation of the percentage of station that found individuals of these species, as follow:

 $X = n/N \times 100$ 

when, X = the percentage of station that found individuals species

n =the number of station that found individuals of the species;

N =the number of total station

The percentage of stations that found individuals of these species can be grouped into 3 levels; including common species (> 70%), rare species (< 31%) and very rare species (< 31%).

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Identification

The marine planktonic diatoms (Division Chromophyta, Class Bacillariophyceae) in Chang Islands, Trat Province composed of 2 orders, 5 suborders, 26 families and at least 70 genera 140 species. At least 38 genera 93 species of centric diatoms (Order Biddulphiales) and at least 32 genera 47 species of pennate diatoms (Order Bacillariales) were identified. The most commom genera in centric diatoms were *Chaetoceros*,

Coscinodiscus and Rhizosolenia that composed of 17, 11 and 9 species, respectively. From this study Stictocyclus varicus A. Mann was the first remarked as record found in Thailand while Asteromphalus robustus Castracane was the first species found in the Gulf of Thailand from this study. Lyrella and Pleurosigma were the most commom genera in pennate diatoms composed of 4 species in both genera. Taxonomic list is showed in Table 1 and the illustration of some species are showed in Figure 2.

#### Occurrence of distribution

In this study, the highest and lowest number of species were reported at the station 18 and station 9 respectively, as showed in Figure 2. There were 42 common species distributed through the area at least 20 stations, 35 rare species frequently found between 9-19 stations and 64 very rare species frequently found in less than 9 stations as showed in Table 1. The common species most frequently found in every station were Coscinodiscus gigas, Coscinodiscus sp.1, Dactyliosolen phuketensis, Hemiaulus membranaceus, Proboscia alata, Pseudosolenia calcar-avis, Rhizosolenia clevei var. communis, R. hyalina, Pleurosigma sp.2, Thalassionema frauenfaeldii and T. nitzschioides.

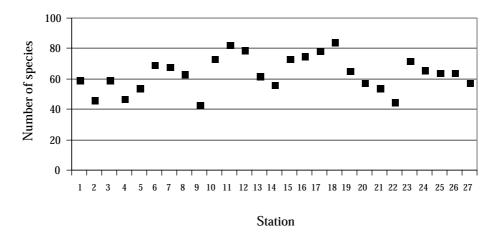


Figure 2 Number of species found in the study sites.

**Table 1** Taxonomic list and distribution of marine planktonic diatoms at Chang Islands, Trat Province in March 2003.

No.	Marine planktonic diatoms	F	No.	Marine planktonic diatoms	F
	Division Chromophyta		Su	border 2 Rhizosoleniineae	
	Class Bacillariophyceae		Fa	amily 1 Rhizosoleniaceae	
	Order 1 Biddulphiales (centric diatom)		32	Dactyliosolen blavyanus (H. Peragallo) Hasle <sup>A</sup>	rr
	Suborder 1 Coscinodiscineae		33	D. fragilissima (Bergon) Hasle A, B	c
	Family 1 Thalassiosiraceae		34	D. phuketensis (Sundström) Hasle A	c
1	Cyclotella sp. A	rr	35	Guinardia cylindrus (Cleve) Hasle A, B	c
2	Detonula pumila (Castracane) Schütt A, B	rr	36	G. flaccida (Castracane) H. Peragallo A, B	c
3	Lauderia annulata Cleve A, B	r	37	G. striata (Stolterfoh) Hasle A, B	c
4	Porosira sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr	38	Proboscia alata (Brightwell) Sundström A, B	c
5	Skeletonema costatum (Greville) Cleve A, B	rr	39	Pseudosolenia calcar avis (Schultze) Sundström A, B	c
6	Thalassiosira sp. <sup>A</sup>	c	40	Rhizosolenia acuminata (H. Peragallo) H. Peragallo A, B	c
	Family 2 Melosiraceae		41	R. bergonii H. Peragallo A, B	c
7	Paralia sulcata (Ehrenberg) Cleve A	r	42	R. clevei Ostenfeld var. clevei Sundström A, B	c
	Family 3 Leptocylindraceae		42.1	R. clevei Ostenfeld var. communis Sundström A, B	c
8	Leptocylindrus danicus Cleve A, B	rr	43	R. hyalina Ostenfeld A, B	c
	Family 4 Coscinodiscaceae		44	R. imbricata Brightwell A, B	c
9	Coscinodiscus asteromphalus Ehrenberg A	rr	45	R. pungens Cleve-Euler A	r
10	C. concinniformis Simonsen A	rr	46	R. robusta Normann A, B	c
11	C. concinnus W. Smith A	r	47	R. setigera Brightwell A, B	r
12	C. gigas Ehrenberg A	c	48	R. striata Greville A, B	c
13	C. janischii A. Schmidt var. arafurensis Grunow A, B	r		Suborder 3 Biddulphiineae	
14	C. jonesianus (Greville) Ostenfeld <sup>A</sup>	rr		Family 1 Hemiaulaceae	
15	C. nobilis Grunow A, B	r	49	Cerataulina bicornis (Ehrenberg) Hasle A, B	r
16	C. oculus iridis Ehrenberg A, B	rr	50	C. pelagica (Cleve) Hendey A, B	r
17	C. radiatus Ehrenberg A, B	rr	51	Climacodium frauenfeldianum Grunow $^{\mathrm{A},\mathrm{B}}$	r
18	Coscinodiscus sp. 1 <sup>A</sup>	c	52	Eucampia cornuta (Cleve) Grunow A, B	r
19	Coscinodiscus sp. 2 A	rr	53	E. zodiacus Ehrenberg A	rr
20	Palmeria hardmaniana Greville A	rr	54	Hemiaulus hauckii Grunow A	r
21	P. ostenfeldii (Ostenfeld) von Stosch A, B	c	55	H. indicus Karsten A	c
	Family 5 Hemidiscaceae		56	H. membranaceus Cleve A	c
22	Actinocyclus normanii (Gregory) Hustedt f.	r	57	H. sinensis Greville A, B	c
	normanii Hasle <sup>A</sup>			Family 2 Cymatosiraceae	
23	A. octonarius Ehrenberg A	rr	58	Cymatosira lorenziana Grunow A	rr
24	Azpeitia nodulifera (A. Schmidt) Fryxell & Sims	c		Family 3 Biddulphiaceae	
	in Fryxell et. al. A		59	Biddulphia pulchella Gray <sup>A</sup>	rr
25	Pseudoguinardia recta von Stosch A, B	c	60	Biddulphiopsis sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr
	Family 6 Stictocyclaceae		61	Isthmia enervis Ehrenberg A	rr
26	Stictocyclus varicus A. Mann <sup>A</sup>	rr	62	Trigonium formosum (Brightwell) Cleve A	rr
	Family 7 Asterolampraceae			Family 4 Chaetoceraceae	
27	${\it Asterolampra\ marylandica}\ {\it Ehrenberg}^{ A}$	r	63	Bacteriastrum comosum Pavillard A	c
28	Asteromphalus flabellatus (Brébisson) Greville A, B	r	64	B. delicatulum Cleve A	c
29	A. robustus Castracane A	r	65	B. elongatum Cleve A	r
30	Asteromphalus sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr	66	B. furcatum Shadbolt A, B	c
	Family 8 Heliopeltaceae		67	B. hyalinum Lauder A, B	c
31	Actinoptychus grundleri A. Schmidt A	rr	68	B. minus Karsten A	r

Table 1 (continued)

	ole 1 (continued)				
No.	Marine planktonic diatoms	F	No.	Marine planktonic diatoms	F
69	Chaetoceros affinis Lauder A, B	r		Family 6 Climacospheniaceae	
70	C. coarctatus Lauder A, B	c	103	Climacosphenia moniligera Ehrenberg A	rr
71	C. compressus Lauder A, B	c		Suborder 2 Bacillariineae	
72	C. constrictus Gran A	rr		Family 1 Lyrellaceae	
73	C. curvisetus Cleve <sup>A</sup>	rr	104	Lyrella clavata (Gregory) D.G. Mann A, C	rr
74	C. denticulatum Lauder A	r	105	Lyrella sp. 1 A	rr
75	C. didymus Ehrenberg A, B	rr	106	Lyrella sp. 2 A	rr
76	C. diversus Cleve A, B	c		Family 2 Berkeleyaceae	
77	C. eibenii Grunow A	rr	107	Climaconeis lorenzii Grunow A	rr
78	C. laciniosus Scühtt A	rr		Family 3 Naviculaceae	
79	C. laevis Leuduger-Fortmorel A, B	r	108	Amphora sp. 1 A	rr
80	C. lorenzianus Grunow A, B	r	109	Amphora sp. 2 <sup>A</sup>	rr
81	C. messanensis Castracane A	r	110	Amphora sp. 3 A	rr
82	C. peruvianus Brightwell A, B	r	111	Diploneis sp. A	rr
83	C. pseudocurvisetus Mangin A	r	112	Donkinia sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr
84	C. tortissimus Gran A	rr	113	Gyrosigma sp. A	rr
85	Chaetoceros sp. A	c	114	Haslea gigantea (Hustedt) Simonsen A	r
	Family 5 Lithodesmaceae		115	H. wawrikae (Hustedt) Simonsen A	r
86	Bellerochea horologicalis von Stosch A	rr	116	Meuniera membranacea (Cleve) P.C. Silva A, B	c
87	Bellerochea sp. A	rr	117	Navicula sp. <sup>A</sup>	r
88	Ditylum sol Grunow A, B	c	118	Pleurosigma sp. 1 <sup>A</sup>	r
	Family 6 Eupodiscaceae		119	Pleurosigma sp. 2 A	c
89	Lampriscus shadboltianum Greville A	rr	120	Pleurosigma sp. 3 A	rr
90	Odontella aurita (Lyngbye) C. A. Agardh A	rr	121	Pleurosigma sp. 4 A	rr
91	O. mobiliensis (Bailey) Grunow A, B	c	122	Trachyneis aspera (Ehrenberg) Cleve A	c
92	O. sinensis (Greville) Grunow A, B	c	123	T. olivaeformis Chin et Cheng A	rr
93	Triceratium favus Ehrenberg A	r		Family 4 Bacillariaceae	
93.1	T. favus Ehrenberg f. quadrata Grunow A	rr	124	Bacillaria paxillifer (O.F. Müller) Hendy <sup>A</sup>	c
	Order 2 Bacillariales (pennate diatom)		125	Cylindrotheca closterium (Ehrenberg) W. Smith A	rr
	Suborder 1 Fragilariineae		126	Nitzschia longissima (Brébisson) Ralfs A	rr
	Family 1 Fragilariaceae		127	N. sigma (Kützing) W. Smith A	r
94	Asterionellopsis glacialis (Castracane) A Round A	rr	128	Psammodictyon sp. A	rr
95	Bleakeleya notata (Grunow) Round A	rr	129	Pseudo-nitzschia pseudodelicatissima (Hasle) Hasle <sup>A</sup>	r
	Family 2 Toxariaceae		130	P. pungens (Grunow ex Cleve) Hasle A	r
96	Toxarium undulatum (J.W. Bailey) Gregory A	rr		Family 5 Surirellaceae	
	Family 3 Thalassionemataceae		131	Auricula complexa (Gregory) Cleve A	rr
97	Lioloma pacificum (Cupp) Hasle A	rr	132	Campylodiscus daemelianus Grunow A	rr
98	${\it Thal assione ma\ frauenfeldii\ (Grunow)\ Hallegraef}^{\rm A, B}$	c	133	C. decorus var. pinnatus Peragallo A	rr
99	T. nitzschioides (Grunow) Mereschkowsky A	c	134	C. echeneis Ehrenberg A	rr
100	Thalassiothrix longissima Cleve & Grunow A, B	c	135	Entomoneis sp. A	c
	Family 4 Licmophoriaceae		136	Petrodictyon gemma (Ehrenberg) Mann A	rr
101	Licmophora sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr	137	Surirella fastuosa (Ehrenberg) Kützing A	r
	Family 5 Ardissoneaceae		138	Surirella sp. <sup>A</sup>	rr
102	Ardissonea formosa (Hantzsch) De Notaris A	rr	139	unidentified pennate diaatom 1 A	r
			140	unidentified pennate diaatom 2 A	rr

Remark F: The percentage of species frequently found, c: common species, r: rare species and rr: very rare species

A: species found in the present study, B: species found in Ostenfeld (1902) and C: species found in Östrup (1904)

Previous study of marine planktonic diatoms at Chang Islands and the adjacent waters was done by Ostenfeld (1902), rearrange with the total identification of 77 marine planktonic diatom species. It indicated that the number of species in this study was higher than the previous study (Table 1). According to his study the sample were collected by the plankton nets made from fine silk nets (no information about mesh size) but in this study collected by a smaller mesh size plankton nets (20 micrometer). In the other hand it was lower than its reported previous by Ostrup (1904)

that presented 274 marine diatoms species. They were mostly pennate diatom that usually exist in benthic form. At present, the name of some species found by Ostenfeld (1902) and Östrup (1904) were reclassified (Table 2). Similarly the recent paper by Thongbor (2004), studied on relationships between the quality of water and plankton distribution at Chang Islands, presented 152 marine planktonic diatoms species. The result of this study shows similar to her report. Because the sampling of both studies were done in the same area sites.

**Table 2** The present and former scientific name of marine planktonic diatoms at Chang Islands, Trat province by Ostenfeld (1902) and Östrup (1904).

	province by Ostenfeld (1902) and Östrup (190	14).			
No.	Present	Former			
	Order Biddulphiales				
1	Azpeitia nodulifera (Schmidt) Fryxell & Sims	Coscinodiscus nodulifer Janisch.			
2	Bacteriastrum furcatum Shadbolt	Bacteriastrum varians Lauder			
3	Cerataulina bicornis (Ehrenberg) Hasle	Cerataulina compacta Ostenfeld			
4	C. pelagica (Cleve) Hendey	C. bergonii Peragallo			
5	Chaetoceros affinis Lauder	Chaetoceros ralfsii Cleve			
6	Detonula pumila (Castracane) Schütt	Detonula delicatula (Peragallo) Gran			
7	Guinardia cylindrus (Cleve) Hasle	Rhizosolenia cylindrus Cleve			
8	G. striata (Stolterfoh) Hasle	R. stolterfothii Peragallo			
9	Helicotheca tamesis (Shrubsole) Ricard	Streptotheca thamensis Cleve			
10	Hemiaulus sinensis Greville	Hemiaulus heibergii Cleve			
11	Leptocylindrus mediterraneus (Peragallo) Hasle	Dactyliosolen mediterraneus Peragallo			
12	Odontella aurita (Lyngbye) Agardh	Biddulphia aurita Lyngbye			
13	O. mobiliensis (Bailey) Grunow	B. mobilensis Bailey			
14	Proboscia alata (Brightwell) Sundström	R. alata Brightwell			
15	Pseudoguinardia recta von Stosch	Lauderiopsis costata Ostenfeld			
16	Pseudosolenia calcar avis (Schultze) Sundström	R. calcar avis Schultze			
17	Rhizosolenia acuminata (Peragallo) Peragallo	R. temperei Peragallo var. acuminata Peragallo			
18	R. bergonii Peragallo	R. amputata Ostenfeld			
19	R. clevei Ostenfeld var. communis Sundström	R. styliformis Brightwell			
20	R. imbricata Brightwell	R. shrubsolii Cleve			
21	Thalassiosira eccentrica (Ehrenberg) Cleve	Coscinodiscus excentricus (eccentricus)			
		Ehrenberg			
22	T. leptopus (Grunow, in Van Heurck) Hasle &	C. lineatus Ehrenberg			
	Fryxell				
	Order Bacillariales				
23	Bacillaria paxillifera (Müller) Hendey	Bacillaria paradoxa Gmelin			
24	Bleakeleya notata (Grunow) Round	Asterionella notata Grunow			
25	Lyrella lyla (Ehrenberg) Karajeva	Navicula lyla Ehrenberg			
26	Meuniera membranacea (Cleve) Silva	Navicula membranacea Cleve			
27	Petrodictyon gemma (Ehrenberg) Mann	Surirella gemma Ehrenberg			
28	Thalassionema frauenfeldii (Grunow) Hallegraef	Thalassiothix fraunfeldii Grunow in Cleve			
29	Toxarium hennedyanum (Gregory) Pelletan	Synedra hennedyana Gregory			

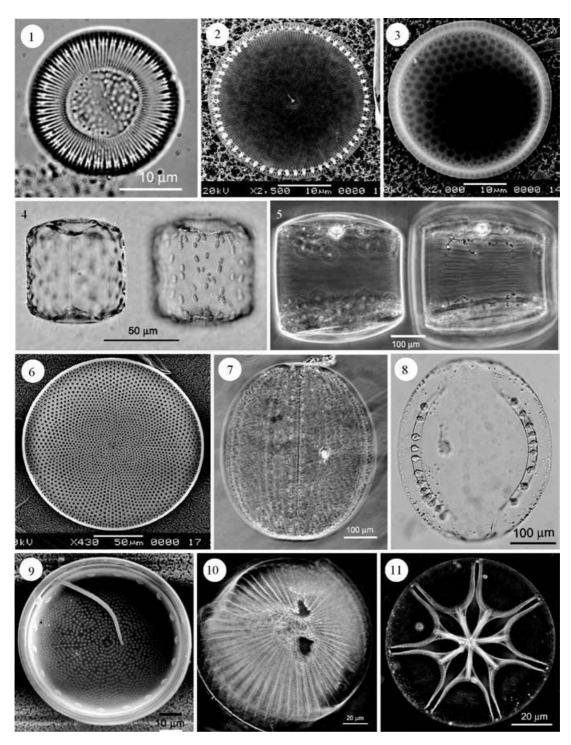


Figure 2 The illustration of some marine planktonic diatoms. (1) Cyclotella sp. (LM), (2) Detonula pumila (SEM), (3) Thalassiosira sp. (SEM), (4) Lauderia annulata (LM), (5) Coscinodiscus concinniformis (LM), (6) C. asteromphalus (SEM), (7) Palmeria hardmaniana (LM), (8) P. ostenfeldii (LM), (9) Actinocyclus octonarius (SEM), (10) Stictocyclus varicus (LM) and (11) Asterolampra marylandica (LM)

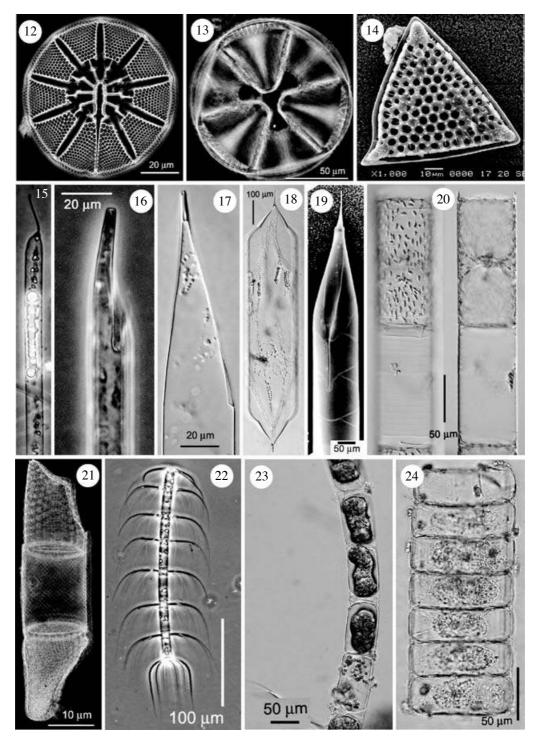


Figure 2 (continued) (12) Asteromphalus robustus (LM), (13) Actinoptychus grundleri (LM), (14) Triceratium favus (SEM), (15) Guinardia cylindrus (LM), (16) Proboscia alata (LM), (17) Rhizosolenia bergonii (LM), (18) R. clevei var. clevei (LM), (19) R. clevei var. communis (SEM), (20) Cerataulina bicornis (LM), (21) Isthmia enervis (LM), (22) Bacteriastrum comosum (LM), (23) Bellerochea horologicalis and (24) Bellerochea sp.

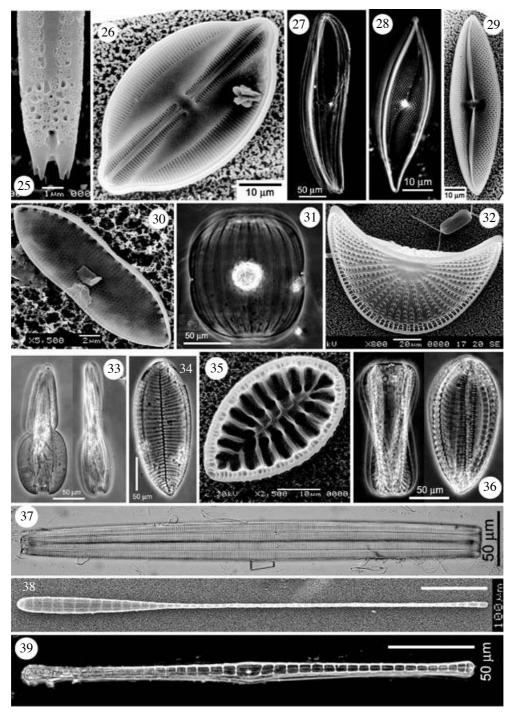


Figure 2 (continued) (25) Lioloma pacificum (SEM), (26) Lyrella clavata (SEM), (27) Donkinia sp. (LM), (28) Pleurosigma sp.1 (LM), (29) Trachyneis olivaeformis (SEM), (30) Psammodictyon sp. (SEM), (31) Auricula complexa (LM), (32) Campylodiscus echeneis (SEM), (33) Entomoneis sp. (LM), (34) Petrodictyon gemma (LM), (35) Surirella fastuosa (SEM), (36) Surirella sp. (LM), (37) Ardissonea formosa (LM), (38) Climacosphenia moniligera (SEM) and (39) Climaconeis lorenzii (LM)

#### **CONCLUSION**

The present study of marine planktonic diatoms at Chang Islands on March 2003 found 70 genera 140 species. Stictocyclus varicus A. Mann was remarked as a first record in Thai waters while Asteromphalus robustus Castracane was the first record in the Gulf of Thailand. In this study, the highest and lowest number of species were reported at station 18 and station 9 respectively. There were 42 common species, 35 rare species and 64 very rare species. Eleven common species were frequently found at all station.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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