

ORAL PRESENTATION

A NEW “CENTRIC” DIATOM FROM OAHU HAWAI’I.

Rex L. Lowe¹ Paul B. Hamilton² and Marina Potapova³

1. University of Michigan Biological Station, Pellston, MI, USA
2. Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
3. Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, USA

We describe a centric diatom collected from Kalawahine trail on Oahu, Hawai’i. Frustules have marginal striae with spines and siliceous extensions on some specimens. The center of the valve is unornamented and we have seen no fultoportulae or rimoportulae. The type location is a shaded depression in a cliff of sediment of volcanic origin. The population was living in a loose association with a filamentous cyanobacterium. We have collected this taxon elsewhere on Kaua’i and Oahu in similar habitats. Three genes were examined (rbcl, psbA and 18S). The closest taxa based on rbcl are brackish marine species and the closest taxa based on psbA include both freshwater and marine taxa.