

A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *CLOSTERIUM* FROM PAKISTAN

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During our investigations on the freshwater algae of the Punjab, we came across an interesting collection of *Closterium* spp., usually growing as planctonic in the rice fields. A gigantic form of *Closterium* sp., was detected which is designated as *Closterium pakistanicum* M-Hassan, Rasool and Nizam., *sp. nov.*

The specimens were collected, fixed and preserved in 4% formalin water solution and kept in the Herbarium of the Department of Botany, Government College, Lahore, Pakistan. Camera Lucida was used for the drawing.

Description: *Closterium pakistanicum* M-Hassan, Rasool et Nizam., *sp. nov.* Cellulae 1250-1312 μm long, 93-94 μm lat., apices 50-52 μm lat., rectiusculus (rarius leviter incurvus); chloroplastus continens pyrenoides sparsis; cresta 6-7 (-8); *crystalis gypsum* in vacuolis terminalis. Reproduction ignoto.

Holotypus-No.37, in Herbaria, botanice departemento, Govt. College, Lahore, Pakistan.

Locus holotypus: Mahmood Booti, Lahore. (Leg. M-Hassan, 9-7-1992).

Description: *Closterium pakistanicum* M-Hassan, Rasool and Nizam. *sp. nov.*

Cells 1250-1312 μm long, 93-94 μm broad; apices 50-52 μm wide almost straight (rarely slightly curved); chloroplasts containing numerous scattered pyrenoids; 6-7 (-8) ridges; gypsum crystals present in terminal vacuoles. Reproduction not known.

Holotype-No.37., Herbarium, Govt. College, Lahore, Pakistan.

Type Locality: Mahmood Booti (Leg. M-Hassan 9-7-1992). Collected from the rice field.

Closterium pakistanicum M-Hassan, Rasool et Nizam. almost resembles *C. turgidum* Ehrenb. var. *giganteum* Nordst. in Wittrock et Nordstet (1880) in length but differs in breadth as well as in the distribution of pyrenoids.

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Fig.1. *Closterium pakistanicum* M-Hassan, Rasool et Nizam. sp. nov. Scale bar-60 μ m.

References

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