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978-0-521-18007-8 - Chrysophytes: Aspects and Problems

Edited by Jorgen Kristiansen and Robert A. Andersen

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JØRGEN KRISTIANSEN

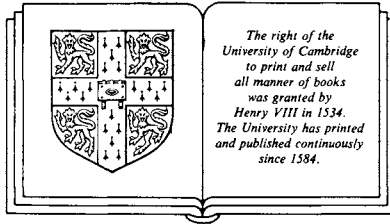
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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

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London New York New Rochelle

Melbourne Sydney

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
 Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,
 São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521180078

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First published 1986
 First paperback edition 2010

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Main entry under title:

Chrysophytes: aspects and problems.

Papers from the first International Chrysophyte
 Symposium, held at the University of North Dakota,
 Aug. 11–16, 1983.

Includes index.

I. Chrysophyceae—Congresses. I. Kristiansen,
 Jørgen. II. Andersen, Robert A. (Robert Arthur),
 1948–. III. International Chrysophyte Symposium
 (1st: 1983: University of North Dakota)
 QK569.C62C48 1986 589.4'8 85-25548

ISBN 978-0-521-32090-0 Hardback
 ISBN 978-0-521-18007-8 Paperback

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Preface

The growing interest in the study of chrysophytes resulted in the First International Chrysophyte Symposium, which was held in Grand Forks (United States of America), at the University of North Dakota, August 11–16, 1983, in continuation of the Annual Meeting of the Phycological Society of America. At this symposium, 41 contributions on all aspects of the study of chrysophytes were presented. Of these, 21 papers have been collected in the present volume, and these contributions reflect important trends in today's investigations on chrysophytes.

One main complex of problems addressed in Part I is the content and delimitation of "chrysophytes." How should this group be structured? On closer study it appears more and more heterogeneous, and perhaps some of its members do not belong here at all. What are the relations to other algae, such as diatoms and brown algae, and to zooflagellates?

Electron microscopy has penetrated into almost every field of chrysophyte study, and taxonomy (Part II) is no exception. Ultrastructural evidence sometimes makes it necessary to split established families. For example, the once united silica-scaled species are now classified as two only distantly related families. Light microscopic characters are still used for arranging species in evolutionary lines, but in many cases electron microscopy is necessary in order to describe new species and to redefine established ones.

The chrysophytes have also been favorite organisms for cell biologists (Part III). Electron microscopy in combination with biochemical methods has made it possible to study the intricate problem of how silica scales are deposited in the scale case surrounding the *Synura* cell. As investigators probe at an ever-smaller scale, biochemical and molecular methods become increasingly more important, such as in the study of organelles and their function or the study of DNA in chloroplasts.

Equally important, but in a direction of increasingly larger scale, are

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studies to help explain how organisms interact with their environment (Parts IV and V). The occurrence of the chrysophytes in nature is regulated at least in part by changes in water chemistry, light, and temperature. Especially important are studies of life histories as correlated with environmental factors. However, occurrence is also governed by interspecific relations, sometimes even as symbiotic partnerships. Ecology and distribution of chrysophytes have been the object of many investigations, but severe species identification problems have hitherto hindered such studies. In the silica-scale-bearing groups these problems to a great extent are now being solved, and the methods of defining and recognizing chrysophyte assemblages have also improved.

The paleobiology (Part VI) of chrysophytes provides, just as it does for all groups of organisms, information that leads to a better understanding of today's living forms. An increasing number of Recent fossil scales and cysts can now be referred to present-day living species with known ecology, and these serve as environmental indicators for understanding aquatic ecosystems of the past. However, many problems remain, such as the identity of Cambrian scales – do they belong to ancient chrysophytes? The growing interest in fossil cysts makes it advantageous to introduce a standardized procedure for describing new forms.

Even if the contributions in this book reflect many viewpoints in the study of chrysophytes today, several additional themes might as well have been treated. In order to give an impression of the complete range of the Symposium, the Symposium papers not published here are listed by author and title.

The Chrysophyte Symposium was a success, and the editors hope that the publication of this treatise will be equally well received. We thank the Phycological Society of America which sponsored the Symposium and supported the publication of this volume. We also thank our editorial committee and the many anonymous reviewers who have striven for excellence in this publication. The First International Chrysophyte Symposium and this publication were supported in part by a United States National Science Foundation Grant BSR 82-16920 to R.A.A.

JK & RAA

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- David H. Adam: Chrysophyte cysts: a geologist's approach.
- R.A. Andersen: Ultrastructure of the flagellar apparatus of *Synura uvela* Ehr.
- G. Cronberg: Scaled chrysophytes from the tropics.
- D.A. Egloff, T.J. Cowles, and D. Stoecker: Effects of *Olisthodiscus luteus* Carter (Chrysophyceae) on feeding and swimming of the marine rotifer *Synchaeta cecilia* Rousselot.
- L.R. Hoffman and M. Vesk: Ultrastructure of zoospores in *Hydrurus foetidus*.
- B.A. Jacobsen: Scale-bearing Chrysophyceae from West Greenland.
- H.J. Kling: Chrysophyceae in Central Arctic lakes.
- Aa. Kristiansen: Locality types and occurrence in Denmark of marine benthic Chrysophyceae and Prymnesiophyceae.
- K.H. Nicholls: *Mallomonas labrinthina* sp. nov. and *Paraphysomonas sediculosa* sp. nov., two new silica-scaled chrysophytes.
- J.D. Pickett-Heaps: A comparison of scale formation in chrysophytes with valve formation in diatoms.
- J.S. Prince: Comparative ultrastructure of coccolith, naked and scaly cells of *Coccolithus neobelis*.
- C.D. Sandgren and H.J. Carney: A flora of fossil chrysophycean cysts from the recent sediments of Frains Lake, Michigan, U.S.A.
- J.P. Smol: Chrysophycean microfossils in lacustrine deposits.
- H.A. Thomsen: Fine structural studies on the flagellate genus *Bicosoeca* – a review.
- S.D. van Valkenburg: The synchronization of silicoflagellate cultures.
- M. Vesk and L.R. Hoffman: Mitosis and cell division in *Hydrurus foetidus*.
- M. Vesk, S.W. Jeffrey, and J.L. Stauber: *Pelagococcus subviridis* from the East Australian current.
- J.L. Wee and M. Gabel: The distributional relationship between pH, tem-

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perature, and assemblages of silica-scaled chrysophytes in the Tall-Grass Prairie of the USA.

D.E. Wujek: Ultrastructure of the flagellated chrysophyte *Chryso-sphaerella*.

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