

NOTE

THE BROWN ALGA *DELMAREA ATTENUATA* DOES NOT  
OCCUR IN NEW ENGLAND

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*Delamarea attenuata* (Kjellman) Rosenvinge is a species of brown algae restricted to cold waters of the North Atlantic and the North Pacific. This monotypic genus is distinguished by its unbranched cylindrical parenchymatous axes with a surface layer of large, loosely connected vesicular pigmented cells called paraphyses (Hariot 1889; Kawai and Kurogi 1980; Rosenvinge and Lund 1947). Ovate unilocular sporangia or elongate plurilocular sporangia are typically produced on separate thalli but sometimes on the same thallus (Pedersen 1984). The family Delamareaceae has been recognized by Zinova (1953), primarily on the unique structure of the paraphyses. The order Delamareales was established by Lund (1959), but Pedersen (1974, 1984) argued against ordinal recognition, placing the Delamareaceae within the Dictyosiphonales. Evidence from gene-sequencing analyses, which have included *Delamarea*, currently places the Dictyosiphonales within a broadly circumscribed Ectocarpales (Draisma et al. 2001). This note is to point out that an error has persisted in the literature regarding the alleged occurrence of this distinctive species in New England (Guiry and Guiry 2007; Sears 1998, 2002; Taylor 1957). Taylor (1957) reported it to occur from both “southern Massachusetts and Ile Miquelon” off the south coast of Newfoundland. The latter location is correct in that Hariot (1889) first described *Delamarea* from there (as *D. paradoxa* Hariot). Later, Rosenvinge (1893) recognized that Kjellman’s (1883) *Scytosiphon attenuatus*, described from Spetsbergen, was a taxonomic synonym that had priority over Hariot’s binomial.

Taylor’s (1957) record of *Delamarea attenuata* from Massachusetts is here questioned. Taylor cited Doty’s (1948) report of *Scytosiphon attenuatus* from Woods Hole, Massachusetts. It is

apparent that there was an initial confusion made by Doty (1948) regarding two heterotypic homonyms, *S. attenuatus* Kjellman (1883) [the basionym of *D. attenuata*] and *S. attenuatus* (Foslie) M.S. Doty (1947) [based on *Chordaria attenuata* Foslie (1887), a name that has come to be treated as a *Scytosiphon*]. When Doty (1947) reported *S. attenuatus* from Oregon, he was dealing with a *Scytosiphon*. The description of his species was complicated by the fact that he had mixed samples of both *Scytosiphon* and *Melanosiphon*, as Wynne (1969) has explained. Wynne (1969) described the new species *S. dotyi* from California and included in it at least a part of Doty's concept of *S. attenuatus* from Oregon. It is clear that Doty (1947) mistakenly treated his own *S. attenuatus* (Foslie) M.S. Doty *nom. illeg.* and *S. attenuatus* Kjellman as equivalent, when they are not. This led Taylor (1957) to conclude, in error, that *D. attenuata* was present in southern Massachusetts. There have been no confirmed collections of *D. attenuata* on the east coast of North America south of New Brunswick, Canada (South et al. 1988).

In the North Atlantic, *Delamarea* is known from eastern Canada (South 1976) and Île Miquelon (Harriot 1889), Spetsbergen (Vinogradova 1995), Greenland (Lund 1959; Pedersen 1976; Rosenvinge 1893, 1898), Iceland (Caram and Jónsson 1972), Norway (Foslie 1887; Jaasund 1965; Rueness 1977), Denmark (Rosenvinge and Lund 1947), Scandinavia (Athanasiadis 1996), and Helgoland (Bartsch and Kuhlenkamp 2000). In the western North Pacific, it is known from eastern Russia (Selivanova and Zhigadlova 1997; Zinova 1953) and Japan (Kawai and Kurogi 1980). Wynne's determination of a collection made by H. W. Johansen from Perry Island, Prince William Sound, Alaska, represented the first report of *D. attenuata* from the Pacific coast of North America (Johansen 1971). There appear to be no subsequent reports from Alaska (Lindstrom 1977).

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