

POSTER PRESENTATION

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GENUS *PROSCHKINIA* FROM CHIHUAHUAN DESERT, NEW MEXICO

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The species of the genus *Proschkinia* are typical inhabitants of the marine coastal waters and have rarely been recorded from inland water bodies. We report three species of *Proschkinia* from the benthic samples collected in Pecos River and three saline lakes in the Chihuahuan Desert in New Mexico. The relative abundance of *Proschkinia* reached up to 20% in some samples. The co-existence of two or three *Proschkinia* species in the same sample was observed. *Proschkinia* sp. 1 from New Mexico was most similar to *P. complanata* (Grunow) Mann, *P. complanatoides* (Hustedt ex Simonsen) Mann, and *Navicula hyalosira* Cleve, but differed from these species by striae density and frustule size and shape. *Proschkinia* sp. 2 had the size similar to *P. hyalosirella* (Hustedt ex Simonsen) Mann and *P. bulnheimii* (Hustedt) Mann, but differed from *P. hyalosirella* by striae density and from *P. bulnheimii* by the valve shape. *Proschkinia* sp. 3 was most similar to *P. complanata*, but differed from it by the narrower valve and finer striae density. Our data suggest that these three species are new for science. An examination of the type materials of the similar *Proschkinia* species will be conducted to clarify the identity of the *Proschkinia* populations from New Mexico.