

Diatom 13: 13-17 (英文)

David G. Mann : Shifting sands : the use of the lower taxonomic ranks in diatoms

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Dedicated to the memory of Professor Hiromu Kobayasi, one of the most careful and devoted diatomists of this century

Abstract

In sexual organisms, such as most diatoms, the variation pattern generally lacks a welldeveloped hierarchical structure below a certain critical level, which is where species boundaries should be drawn. Genera and other higher taxa should never be polyphyletic ; ranking is never absolute but relative. Intraspecific taxa should generally be avoided until our knowledge of nature, origin and maintenance of the variation pattern has improved significantly.

Key index words

bacillariophyta, genus, species, taxonomy, variety