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Dimidialimbus bungoensis, gen. nov. and sp. nov. (Stephanodiscaceae) a new diatom genus from Early Pleistocene sediment, Kyushu, Japan

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Abstract

A new fossil centric diatom species *Dimidialimbus bungoensis* belonging to a new genus *Dimidialimbus* is described based on an Early Pleistocene sediment sample from the Omoto Formation located in Oita Prefecture, Kyushu, Southwestern Japan. The most similar species by LM comparison is *Cymatotheca weissflogii* (Grunow) Hendey. The new species, however, lacks a mantle on the concave side of the valve and has mantle fultoportulae located on costae as well as a flat hyaline zone forming a broad rim on the concave side that lacks mantle fultoportulae. These characteristics do not fit the genus *Cymatotheca* Hendey nor *Thalassiosira* Cleve, *Pliocaenicus* Round & Håkansson or any of the other established genera of Thalassiosirales Glezer & Makarova.

Key index words: *Dimidialimbus bungoensis*, Early Pleistocene, fossil, Japan, Omoto Formation