

## ON SOME TAXA OF *EUASTRUM* EHRENBERG - NEW TO INDIAN DESMID FLORA

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The present paper describe 4 taxa of the genus *Euastrum* Ehrenberg, viz., *E. ampullaceum* Ralfs; *E. ansatum* Ralfs var. *rhombooidales* Duceell; *E. didelta* Ralfs ex Ralfs; *E. oblongum* (Grev.) Ralfs ex Ralfs recorded for the first time from India.

Key Words : *Euastrum*, Freshwater algae, Planktonic, Taxonomy.

Our knowledge regarding the occurrence and distributions of desmids in India is inadequate. Iyengar & Vimala Bai (1941); Suxena & Venkateswarlu (1968); Agarkar (1969); Prasad & Misra (1984); Pandey & Habib (1987); Habib (1990) have studied the desmid flora from different parts of the country, the author came across 86 taxa of desmids of which 4 taxa forming the subject matter of the present communication are new records for India. Systematic accounts given by Ruzicka (1981) and Coesel (1985) were consulted for identification of the desmid taxa. Collections have been made from different localities situated, in and around of Bareilly district, U.P., India during 1989-91. The algal samples have been collected in polythene bottles and preserved in 4% formalin. Camera lucida drawings have been sketched both from live as well as preserved materials. The collections have been deposited at the Algal collections, Laboratory of Phycology, Department of Botany, Bareilly College, Bareilly bearing Accession Numbers SABA 804 to SABA 818.

*Euastrum ampullaceum* Ralfs (Fig. 1). Coesel 1985, p. 18, pl. 12, fig. 2. Long cell 83-106 µm; lat. cell 52-63 µm; lat. isthmus 8-9 µm. Planktonic with other algae, river Shankha and Dhopa pond (SABA 806, 809) 18-3-1989, 24-6-1991. The present alga agree well with the description as given by Ruzicka (1981). This alga is a new record for India.

*E. ansatum* Ralfs var. *rhombooidale* Duceell. (Fig. 2). Coesel 1985, p. 18, pl. 12 figs. 6 & 7. Long cell 78-110 µm; lat. cell 40-53 µm; lat. isthmus 8-10 µm. Planktonic with other algae, river Shankha (SABA 806), 4-9-91. The present desmid agree well with the type descriptions as given by Ruzicka (1981). This is a new record for India.

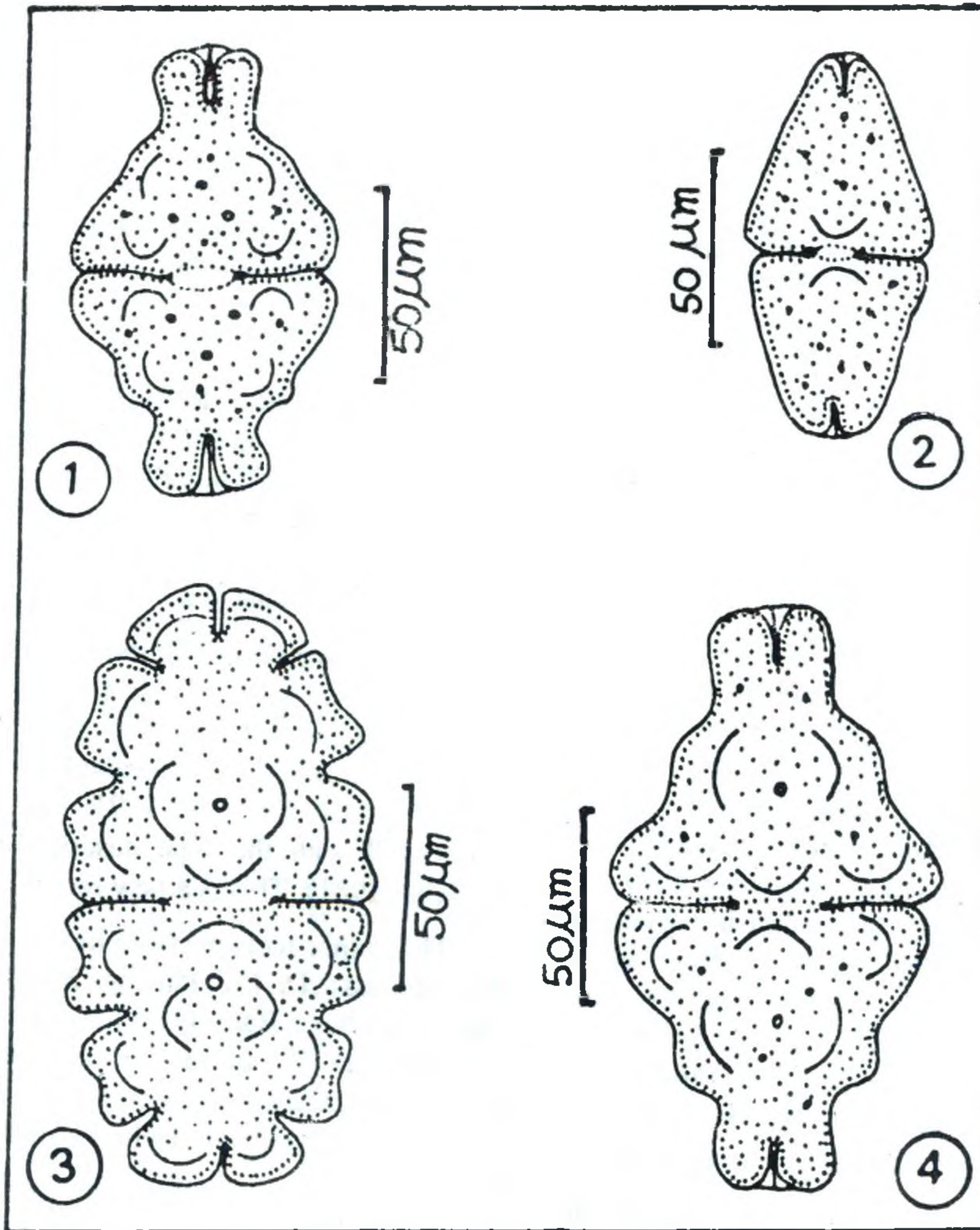
*E. didelta* Ralfs ex Ralfs (Fig. 4). Coesel, 1985, p. 18, pl. 12, fig. 1. Long cell 124-156 µm; lat. cell 69-75 µm; lat. isthmus 10-12 µm. Planktonic with other algae, river Shankha (SABA 810), 24-7-1989. The present desmid agree well with the type description as given by Ruzicka (1981). This is a new record for India.

*E. oblongum* (Grev.) Ralfs ex Ralfs (Fig. 3). Coesel 1985, p. 20, pl. 14, figs. 1 & 2. Long cell 135-180 µm; lat. cell 80-85 µm; lat. isthmus 4-6 µm. Planktonic with other algae, rivers Shankha and Ram Ganga (SABA 811, 814) 15-4-1991, 7-2-1991. The present desmid agree well with the type description as given by Ruzicka (1981). This is a new record for India.

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Figures 1-4. Fig. 1 : *Euastrum ampullaceum* Ralfs, Fig. 2 : *E. ansatum* Ralfs var. *rhomboidale* Ducell. Fig. 3 : *E. oblongum* (Grev.) Ralfs ex Ralfs, Fig. 4 : *E. didelta* Ralfs ex Ralfs

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