

***Atractomorpha echinata* f. *gigantea* (Heynig) Täuscher, comb. nov. (Chlorophyceae, Sphaeropleaceae)**

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In 1980, the German phycologist Hermann Heynig (see Täuscher 2003, 2009) described *Closteriopsis longissima* f. *gigantea* Heynig (Heynig 1980, 353, figs 3a-c, 4 a-b [iconotype]). The type locality for this forma is the Helme Reservoir near Kelbra/Kyffhäuser in the federal states of Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia in Germany (Heynig 1980, 2003; Krienitz & Bock 2012; Täuscher 2016). The cells of this forma are particularly long (660-1900 µm).

A few years later, Hoffman (1983: 77, figs 1-45) described the genus *Atractomorpha* L.R.Hoffman 1983 typified by the new species *Atractomorpha echinata* L.R.Hoffman from New Deal, Lubbock County, Texas, USA, isolated from a soil sample. While it is clear now that *Closteriopsis longissima* f. *gigantea* and *Atractomorpha echinata* are representative of the same genus, the different dimensions and habitat of the German populations suggests that two different entities are involved.

Pending further comparative studies at the species level, the new combination *Atractomorpha echinata* f. *gigantea* is here proposed:

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Basionym: *Closteriopsis longissima* f. *gigantea* Heynig, *Archiv für Protistenkunde* vol. 123: 351, 1980

Atractomorpha echinata f. *gigantea* is a freshwater entity, found in reservoirs and ponds in Germany (Heynig 1980, 2003; Krienitz 1984; Täuscher 2016).

I am grateful to: Lothar Krienitz for important remarks; Michael Guiry for correcting the taxonomic status and for important discussions on the manuscript; and my daughter Henrike Täuscher for correcting the English version.

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