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Cladophora glomerata i glony towarzyszące w rzece Skawie. Rozmieszczenie i warunki występowania

Cladophora glomerata and concomitant algae in the river Skawa.

Distribution and conditions of appearance

Mémoire présenté le 13 avril 1967 dans la séance de la Commission Biologique de l'Académie Polonaise des Sciences, Cracovie

Abstract — The studies aimed at a detailed working out of the distribution of *Cladophora glomerata* and concomitant algae in the River Skawa (a right Vistula tributary). An attempt was made to determine and describe the community with *Cladophora glomerata*. The paper also contains a short description of the terrain under study and gives the general characteristics of the environment in which the investigation was carried out.

Algae of the river Skawa and its affluents were sporadically investigated by Raciborski (1888) and Gutwiński (1884, 1890, 1893, 1897, 1898, 1901). The necessity therefore arose of undertaking a more detailed investigation of the flora of algae in a river in which the intended building-up and regulation of the bed might cause complete changes among the communities of organisms.

The present work, as a supplement to the first part (C h u d y b a 1965), attempts to distinguish and describe *Cladophora glomerata* communities in a typical Carpathian river. It also contains a short description of the investigated terrain and presents the general characteristics of the environment in which the investigation was carried out.

C. glomerata is among the most characteristic fluvial algae. Around it and in its thalli many other species of algae appear, especially diatoms. A community with *C. glomerata* as a characteristic species is undoubtedly the most representative for the algal flora of the Skawa.

C. glomerata itself, in spite of the interest which it has provoked in botanists, such as Brand (1899, 1902, 1909 a, b), Borovicov (1914),

Bliding (1936), Cholnoky (1930), Colmant (1931), Hoek (1963), Kann (1940), Lundh (1951), Morozova (1959), Schoser (1956), Symoens (1957), Waern (1939, 1952), Zacharova (1923) and others, has not been till now the subject of more detailed investigation with regard to its appearance and ecology in particular rivers.

The *C. glomerata* association has already been described (Naumann 1926, Sauer 1937, Margalef 1949, Symoens 1951, 1954, Bohr 1962) but is nevertheless not yet sufficiently known.

The present work was carried out under the direction of Professor Karol Starmach, to whom I wish to express my profound gratitude for entrusting me with this subject, and for his care and valuable indications during its execution. I should also like to thank Docent Jadwiga Siemińska for her help in preparing the paper for print, as well as Professor T. Młynek for his kind interest in my work and for facilitating the laboratory investigation.

Geographical and hydrological characteristics of the river Skawa and of its basin

The basin of the Skawa is situated within the compass of the Carpathian Mountains and partly in the submontane area. Its upper part is in the Beskid range, which is cleft and divided by the valley of the Skawa. The High Beskid, that of the Babia Góra, lies to the south-west. To the east of the river Skawa in its southern part are the Gorce range, with the Insular Beskid in the north.

The Carpathian Highlands extend to the north of the Beskids and are divided by the river Skawa into the Wadowice (to the west of the river) and Lanckorona Highlands (to the east).

Further north from Carpathian Highlands is the submontane region. In its western part, the Oświęcim Cirque, the Skawa falls into the Vistula.

Streams flowing from the north-eastern slopes of the Lysa Góra Mt. (alt. 806 m) form the river Skawa in the High Beskid at an altitude of 780 m. It has an average decline of 5.62% and, flowing mostly in a north-westerly direction, it falls into the Vistula in the locality of Podolsze (alt. 217.9 m). Its length amounts to L=100.7 km, of wich 81.7 km belong to its upper course and 19.0 km to its lower one. The entire decline is 562 m.

The area of the whole basin of the Skawa amounts to $F=1188~\rm km^2$, $873~\rm km^2$ in its upper part and $315~\rm km^2$ in the lower one.

The density of the river network in the upper part of the Skawa basin is 0.98 km/km², and 0.85 km/km² in the lower part 0.948 km/km² on the average, with a total length of flows in the whole drainage basin amounting to 1098 km.

The course of the river Skawa can be divided into:

- a) The submontane course (with the exception of the part of the sources about 3 km long) from the locality of Spytkowice Podhalańskie to the mouth of the Bystra stream.
- b) The montane course, from the locality Bystra to the mouth of the Choczenka stream.
- c) The lower course (in the plain) from the mouth of the Choczenka to the issue into the Vistula.

The sector of the sources, relatively short (approx. 3—4 km) and with a very sharp gradient, has the character of a stream and ends in the locality of Spytkowice Podhalańskie. From there onwards, the dominating feature of this part of the Skawa up to the mouth of the Bystra is a very inconsiderable gradient of the river valley, which is responsible for its nearly lowland character. The Skawa flows here through meadows and arable fields and its bed, very winding, is narrow (1—4 m broad) and cuts deeply into the rocky substratum (up to 7 m). The depth of the water varies from 5 to 50 cm. The relation of the lotic to the lenitic zone is 1:4 over 1 km. The river bottom is mostly sandy and slimy or only slimy.

From the mouth of the stream Bystra to the issue of the stream Choczenka the gradient increases (fig.1) and a series of distinctly montane affluents (Skawica, Stryszawka, Paleczka) fall into the Skawa, which only then exhibits all the features of a montane river. The bed of the Skawa becomes broader (fig. 2) and shallows up to 1 m. The bottom is covered with considerable masses of rock debris transported by numerous torrents which form considerable raised cones where they fall into the Skawa. The course of the river is rapid and there are numerous cascades. The mean depth of the water is 60 cm. Though deeper places and shallower ones with a strong current appear from time to time. The relation of the lotic zone to the lenitic one changes abruptly and amounts on the average to 4:1 over 1 km.

In the neighbourhood of Wadowice the river Skawa enters into its last lowland sector. The mean gradient is 1.6‰, and in places even 1.2‰. The river bed, with a nearly rectilinear breadth and gentle curves, is 50—200 m wide. The bottom is covered with fine gravel and has visible sandy shoals. The Skawa flows very slowly here, forming only a few riffles with a more rapid current. The relation of the lotic to the lenitic zone over 1 km amounts on the average to 1:9.

The general characteristics of the more important affluents of the Skawa, from its sources to its mouth, are presented in Table I.

Dividing the Western Carpathian Mountains into geobotanical units (Kornaś 1955, Szafer 1959, Pawłowski 1959), the greater part of the terrain of the basin in question belongs, from the floristic point of view, to the Subdistrict of Silesia and Babia Góra, while the

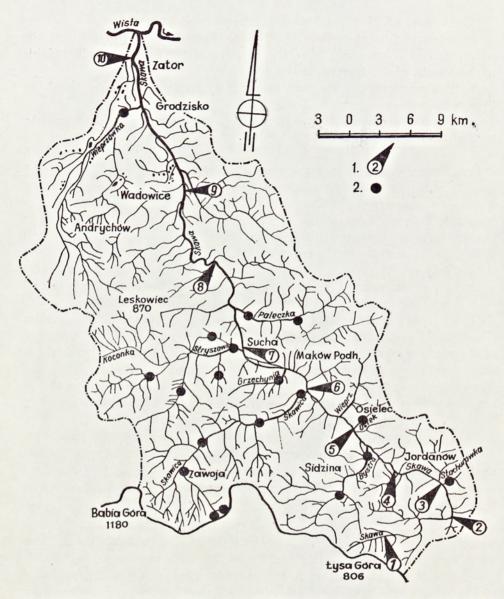


Fig. 1. Basin of the river Skawa. 1 — sampling places; 2 — places in which the presence of Cladophora glomerata was observed

short sector of the Skawa near its mouth belongs to the District of the Oświęcim Cirque.

The basin of the Skawa is situated in the area of the Flish Carpathian Mountains of the External Flish and of the formations of the Carpathian submontane region (K siążkiewicz 1939, 1948, 1951, 1958, Świderski 1953, Michalik 1962).

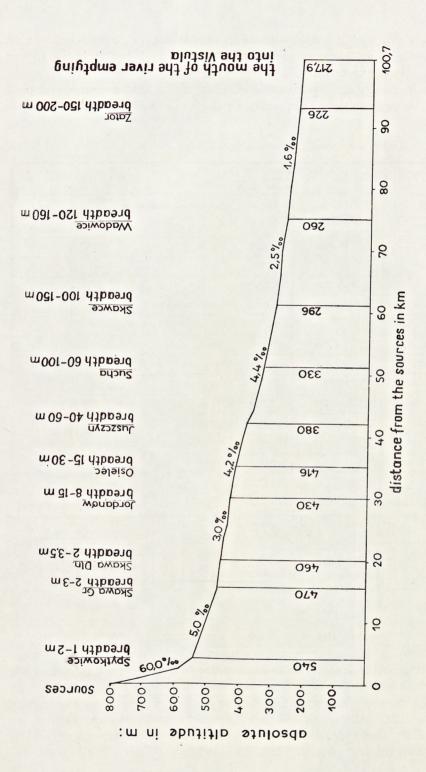


Fig. 2. Gradient of the river Skawa

In the terrain of the drainage basin sandstone, sandy and loamy and marly soils appear. Loesses are present in a fairly large complex in the northern part of the basin.

The soils lie on an impermeable substratum so that marshes and peat bogs can be found fairly frequently in the valleys of the Skawa and its affluents.

Table I. General characteristics of the more important tributaries of the river Skawa

No	Stream	Affluent	Springs at altitude in m	Length from springs to mouth in km	Place near the river mouth	Mean decline in ‰	Surface of river basin in km ²
1	Podżaga	left bank	600	6.2	Spytkowice Podhalańskie	14	19.6
2	Naprawka	right bank	575	7.0	Jordanów	19	17.6
3	Bystra	left bank	705	14.3	Bystra	19.9	81.3
4	Wieprzec	right bank	670	7.4	Juszczyn	37.3	18.7
5	Skawica	left bank	1460	22.7	Juszczyn	27.9	145.9
6	Żarnówka	right bank	600	5.2	Maków Podhalański	45.5	11.7
7	Grzechynia	left bank	638	7.5	Maków Podhalański	38.8	13.9
8	Stryszawka	left bank	840	26.0	Sucha	31	140.7
9	Paleczka	right bank	495	14.4	Zembrzyce	13.8	81.8
10	Tarnawa	left bank	650	10.3	Skawce ·	32.7	22.3
11	Ponikiewka	left bank	680	7.6	Zbyczakówka	55.0	17.2
12	Choczenka	left bank	521	12.4	Wadowice	20.9	25.2
13	Kleczanka	right bank	347	41.5	near Wadowice	6.1	63.5
14	Wieprzówka	left bank	800-600	115.5	Grodzisko	9.0	158.3

Table II. Mean air temperatures in the basin of the river Skawa for the years 1959-1963

Place		Spring	5		Summer			Autumn			Winter		Year
	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
Babia Góra Zawoja Maków Podhalański Leskowiec Wadowice	-1.9 0.9 2.0 2.7	3.2 6.7 8.5 9.0	6.6 9.7 11.6 9.1 12.2	10.1 13.4 15.4 13.0 14.7	11.9 14.8 16.7 14.4 17.2	12.2 15.2 16.7 15.0 17.5	8.6 11.4 11.5 11.2 13.2	5.3 7.9 8.6 7.8 8.8	1.7 4.2 4.0 5.0		-6.6 -4.2 -4.3 -5.0 -3.5	-5.9 -4.0 -3.8 -4.0 -3.0	3.4 6.1 7.8 7.6

From a list of mean air temperature values during several years (Table II) it appears that the lowest mean annual temperature as well as the mean air temperature values for particular months correspond to those of mountain areas. The mean annual temperatures fall with a rise in altitude and this is also the case for monthly temperatures. The lowest monthly temperatures appear in January and February and the highest in July and August.

The first slight frosts usually in the valleys occur at the end of October and the last ones in the middle of May.

The highest water temperature in the Skawa (Table III) is attained in the summer months, but in this period the minimum does not fall below 6.8°C, while the maxima often reach 22.6°C. In December, January, and February and often in the first decade of March the water of the Skawa is coldest and retains its minimum of 0.0°C; rarely occurring

Table III. Mean monthly water temperatures in the river Skawa for the years 1959-1963 in Wadowice

·		Spring	5		Summer			Autumn			Winter		Mean
Year	March	April	May .	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1959–1963	4.4 3.4 4.6 0.8 1.0 2.8	7.9 7.3 10.5 6.7 7.7	12.9 12.0 12.0 9.7 11.7	14.5 15.6 16.1 12.8 16.2 15.0	17.5 14.1 16.8 15.1 18.6 16.4	17.1 16.2 16.4 17.1 17.6 17.0	12.2 13.4 14.6 12.5 15.2 13.6	7.2 10.0 10.7 9.0 9.2 9.2	5.7.5.0.1 5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5.5	2.0 1.6 3.1 1.8 0.4 1.8	0.6 0.8 0.4 0.6 0.1 0.5	0.2	8.52 9.36 9.65 8.4

Table IV. Some ecological factors in the river Skawa (1963)

Locality No	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Date	Sept.	Sept. 20	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept. 18	Sept. 24	Sept. 25	Sept.
Air temperature OC	20	21	20	20	21	20	29	10	11	, 12
Water temperature °C	14	15	15	17	17	18	21	11	11	11
Depth in cm in places where samples were collected	10	10	15	20	30	35	30	45	70	70
Rapidity of current in cm/sec	10	12	16	30	50	80	65	90	90	90
pH of water	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.2	8.8	7.6	8.0	7.2
Hardness of water in German degrees	15.0	12.0	10.5	8.8	8.2	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.0
Alkalinity of water in mv	5.2	4.8	5.0	3.4	5.2	1.8	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.0

Table V. Mean precipitation in the years 1959-1963 in the Skawa basin in mm

Place		Spring	5	1.13	Summer			Autum	1	17772	Winter		Year
12000	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	
Babia Góra Zawoja Sidzina Jordanów Osielec Maków Podhalański Sucha Leskowiec Wadowice Andrychów Grodzisko	87 51 42 37 48 56 66 36 42 33	112 835 650 48 761 108 657 50	157 158 94 105 105 111 122 125 106 113 97	201 168 132 109 136 148 145 173 186	232 201 129 157 145 179 184 217 169 192 157	119 99 69 62 61 76 76 77 67 76	85 66 44 45 48 63 52 77 47 542	64 60 331 352 454 34 33 43	92 76 45 56 56 77 57 45 51	112 95 49 42 59 69 76 52 59	87 51 45 56 41 52 58 53 41 33	76 40 336 339 48 235 6	1426 1148 788 781 788 952 982 1132 792 873 705

maxima do not exceed 9°C. Temperatures noted during the collecting of samples are listed in Table IV (in which the depth of the water, the rapidity of the current, hardness, and alkalinity are also given).

The distribution of atmospheric precipitation (Table V) in the Skawa basin is strictly connected with the formation of the terrain and coincides, as a rule, with the calculations of Wiszniewski (1953, fig. 3).

The beginning of the snow cover usually falls in the first decade of December, the thaw taking place in the last decade of March. In the lowland area of the river basin the snow cover lasts on the average for

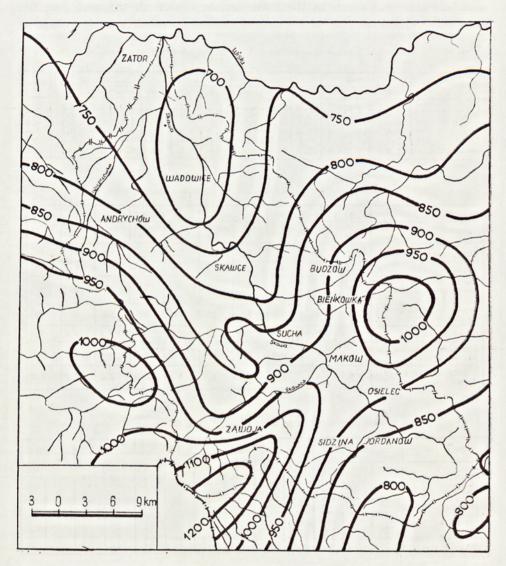


Fig. 3. Mean sums of atmospheric precipitation in 1 mm — in the basin of the Skawa in the years 1891—1930 (after Wiszniewski 1953)

80 days. At greater altitudes the snow lies longer, in the highest mountain parts exceeding 140 days in the year.

Ice appears in December on the river Skawa and lasts till March. Hoar-frost and ice appear near the banks in December while the ice cover is maintained throughout January and February and often also the beginning of March. Its thickness is 10—50 cm. The mean number of days when the Skawa is ice-bound is 28, and 34 when other ice phenomena (hoar-frost, ice floes, ice near the banks) are present.

The highest water levels in the river Skawa (Table VI) are maintained during the spring and summer months.

Table VI. Monthly mean values of the water level in the river Skawa 1959-1963 in cm

Place	Place Spring		5		Summer			Autum	1		,	Year	
	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Toal
Jordanów Osielec Sucha Wadowice Zator	211 180 158 203 159	205 181 159 205 158	198 173 154 197 150	202 176 154 203 154	200 176 151 196 151	191 184 142 184 131	185 177 135 174 118	186 176 132 172 118	197 170 133 176 122	191 174 142 186 135	195 175 150 198 144	201 183 154 203 145	197 177 147 191 140

The colour and transparency of the water in the river Skawa vary considerably in the course of the year and depend on the level and the amount of suspensions brought in from the upper course of the river by numerous streamlets flowing into it and by drains. The water is usually transparent and only acquires a yellowish-brown colour at higher water levels.

The water of the Skawa is pure, as a rule (Raczyński 1962, Musiał 1963). A certain pollution visible in the region of Wadowice and near the mouth of the Wieprzówka is caused by industrial waste waters from Wadowice and Andrychów. The pollution, however, is rapidly cleared (in the space of about 500 m of the river's course) and does not play any important role in the life of the river.

Method

The investigation was carried out at the following sampling places (fig. 1):

- A. Places at which samples were collected for detailed laboratory investigation:
- 1. The stream forming the river Skawa in the village of Spytkowice Podhalańskie, about 1 km above the road leading to Jordanów through Wysoka the spring sector; altitude about 540 m.
- 2. The Skawa in the locality of Skawa Górna, about 3.5 km above the railway halt of Skawa; alt. approx. 470 m.
- 3. The Skawa in the locality of Skawa Dolna, about 500 m before the mouth of the stream Stachurówka; alt. approx. 460 m.
- 4. The Skawa near the locality of Jordanów, above the mouth of the stream Toporzysko; alt. approx. 430 m.

- 5. The Skawa above the locality of Osielec, about 2 km before the mouth of the Bystra; alt. approx. 416 m.
- 6. The Skawa in the locality of Biała, above the mouth of the Skawica; alt. approx. 380 m.
- 7. The Skawa near the locality of Sucha, above the mouth of the Stryszawka; alt. approx. 330 m.
 - 8. The Skawa near the locality of Skawa; alt. approx. 296 m.
 - 9. The Skawa in Wadowice; alt. approx. 260 m.
- 10. The Skawa in Zator the sector near its mouth; alt. approx. 226 m.
- B. Additional sampling places in which the presence of *Cladophora* glomerata was observed (affluents of the river Skawa):
 - 1. The stream Stachurówka, about 3 km before its issue into the Skawa.
- 2. The river Bystra in the locality of Sidzina and the place where it falls into the Skawa.
 - 3. The stream Osielec in the locality of Osielec.
- 4. The river Skawica, about 4 km before its issue into the Skawa, in the localities of Skawica, Zawoja Górna, Zawojna Dolna, and the tributary Jaworzyna in its source sector.
 - 5. The stream Grzechynia in the locality of Grzechynia.
- 6. The river Stryszawka in its mouth sector, in the vicinity of Sucha, in the localities of Stryszawa and Lachowice and in its small tributaries, the streams Zasypnica and Bładzonka.
 - 7. The river Paleczka near Budzów and Zembrzyce.
 - 8. The river Wieprzówka, about 6 km from its issue into the Skawa.

Material was collected in the autumn period from September 1st to 27th, 1963. The autumn period was chosen for the following reasons (Chudyba 1965):

- a. The development of the *C. glomerata* in the system of the river Skawa is characterised by two maxima, spring and autumn, the latter maximum being the highest in the year.
- b. Species of other systematic groups which constantly accompany the *C. glomerata* also attain during this period their highest maxima as to quality and quantity.

Thus for investigation of the community of *C. glomerata* in the river Skawa in its most typical form the material collected in autumn is the most valuable.

Samples for detailed laboratory investigation were collected only in the river Skawa. Data concerning the appearance of this species in some of the affluents of the Skawa were also added to the results concerning its distribution. Within the three previously distinguished sectors of the river Skawa, a total of 10 sampling places was taken into account. Particular sampling places represent the most characteristic places of the lotic zone in particular sectors of the river. These were the places where the most abundant and intensive development of the *C. glomerata* was observed (sociability 5, according to the Braun-Blanquet scale), permitting an accurate visual selection and choice of uniform flakes for carrying out phytosociological surveys.

As these were rather extensive (50-150 m²), 10 samples were chosen in each of them from 8-12 stones, as typical as possible and also larger (with a diameter of 10-30 cm), collected on the cross-section and longitudinal section of the river. Only occasionally were samples collected from fine gravel and other objects in the water.

Thalli of C. glomerata were cut off at the base with a scalpel on an area of about 1 cm² from the sheltered side of each stone and placed in a seperate tube.

Sometimes algae were scraped and collected from places where the *C. glomerata* had been previously cut. In some cases additional material was collected beyond the investigated lotic part of the river.

All samples were preserved on the spot in a fluid consisting of 1 part 40 per cent formalin and 3 parts 96 per cent ethyl alcohol.

It was decided, on principle, to obtain a collection of thalli from a total surface of 1 dm² from each.

A total of 137 samples were collected and examined. 100 samples (10 samples from each sampling place), representing uniform flakes of *C. glomerata* communities, formed a basis for later comparison of particular stations of the investigated terrain, while 37 samples were used for orientative investigation only.

The preserved material from every test tube was first studied without submitting its content to the process of maceration.

Typical *Cladophora* thalli were chosen, their length measured and the type of branching determined as well as the manner in which, algae were often distributed upon them. The degree of saturation of cellular membranes with calcium carbonate was determined at a guess, the thalli being treated with a 1/10 n solution of HCl and depending on the degree of effervescence, the following scale of degrees was applied: insignificant, moderate, great.

The species composition of the algae possible to determine was established on the basis of the 10 preparations in potassium acetate (1:50) usually examined.

For an accurate determination of diatoms half the collected material from one test tube was taken and macerated with a mixture of saturated solution of $K_2Cr_2O_7$ and concentrated sulphuric acid (H_2SO_4) in the proportion 1:3. After the washing out of impurities and the setting of

armatures of the diatoms, 3 durable preparations were made from the sediment diluted with 95 per cent alcohol in the proportion 1:4 confined in a pleurax.

Each preparation was accurately investigated, each band in turn, until more new forms were found.

When describing associations of algae, the method introduced by Starmach (Starmach 1961, 1962 a, b, 1964, Kawecka 1964, Chudybowa 1964, Wasylik 1965) was used. The description of associations in this case is based on the differentiation of dominating species and the determination of their role in the spatial system of the community. Details concerning the method were given in the preceding paper (Chudyba 1965).

Distribution of Cladophora glomerata

During the period of investigation, *C. glomerata* was found along the whole length of the river Skawa, from its sources to its mouth. They appeared in different intensity in particular sectors of the river. The montane sector (sampling places 5—8) was relatively the most overgrown; towards the sources and mouth of the river this abundance diminished.

C. glomerata appeared also in all, or nearly all affluents, not excepting the source sectors of mountain streams (e.g. the Jaworzyna stream at alt. 940 m) and other smaller seasonal tributaries. It is a settled benthonic alga and only accidentally broken off parts of its thalli could be found in the investigated terrain in the form of freely floating tufts or separate filaments. The thallus is attached to the substratum by means of branched rhizoids which grow out of the basal cell or out of several cells of the base. It forms turf-like coatings adhering tightly to the substratum, in the form of numerous filaments twisted like rope, disposed smoothly with the current. It grows on stones of different sizes and also on shells, on paling submerged in the water, on pieces of iron and a submersed tree branches.

Greater agglomerations of luxuriant and well developed thalli visible to the naked eye were only seen in those parts of the river with stronger current.

During the course of investigation the water of these parts was in general shallow (Table IV) and larger stones often projected above the water. Among thalli collected from such projecting stones (sampling places 3, 6, 5) stems of the mosses: Brachythecium rivulare (Bruch.) Br. eur., and Hygroamblystegium luridum (Hedw.) Jennings were found attached to the substratum.

In lotic places the thalli attained a maximum length (up to 120 cm, sampling place 7) and abundance of branches. The maximum length of the thalli found in the river Skawa should not be considered as exceptional;

Table VII. External appearance of Cladophora glomerata thalli. Its numerosity and sociability in particular localities of the river Skawa

4*

			g o			le le	
10	Sept.26 1963	15-25	green, brown at the base	moderate	5	in the basal and sentral parts of the thalli	forms arge is
6	Sept.25 1963	10-20	green, brownish- -black at the base	moderate	5	in the basal and central parts of the thalli	the species forms moderately large concentrations
8	Sept.24 1963	50-100	bright-green, green, yellow at the brownish- base -black at the base	numerous	5	in the basal parts of the thalli	acentrations -
7	Sept.18 1963	80-120	bright-green, brown at the base	numerous	C.	in the basal and central parts of the thalli	the species forms large concentrations - "masses" 5
9	Sept.18 1963	35-70	green, bright-green, yellow at the base base	numerous	2	in the basal in the basal and central parts of the thalli	the species "masses"
5	Sept.19 1963	30-50	green, brown at the base	numerous	5		oly large
4	Sept.19	5-10	green, in the basal parts yellow	moderate	5	in the basal and central parts of the thalli	the species forms moderately large concentrations 4
3	Sept.19 1963	2-5	upper part green remaining part brownish - black	moderate	5	in the basal and central parts of the thalli	the species f
2	Sept.20 1963	1-3	upper part green, remaining part brown	small	5	in the basal and central parts of the thalli	orms greater fts 3
1	Sept.20 1963	0.5-2	greyish- -green, brown at the base	small	5	entire thalli covered with epiphytes	the species forms greater or smaller tufts
Locality No	Date	Average length of thalli in cm	Colour of thalli	Abundance of ramification	Numerosity after the Braun- Blanquette scale	Distribution of epiphytes	Sociability after the Braun- Blanquette scale

the thalli of this alga can attain, according to Kann (1940) and Thomas (1960), a length of several metres.

The length of the thalli in lotic parts of the river Skawa was enormously differentiated; it reached its maxima (50—120 cm) in the central, montane sector of the river (sampling places 5—8). Towards the sources and the mouth the length of the thalli diminished to 0.5—15 cm (sampling places 1, 2, 3, 9, 10) (Table VII and fig. 6).

Some parts of the bottom in slowly flowing water had no thalli or were sparsely overgrown with small ones (0.5—2 cm, occasionally 4 cm long).

In contradistinction to the thalli from lotic places, which were only covered with epiphytes at their base, the thalli from lenitic places were almost entirely covered with epiphytes and with a greyish-brown inorganic deposit.

In intensity of appearance, C. glomerata shows a tendency to settle in more illuminated parts of the bottom of the river Skawa. This probably explains why its most numerous and abundant development was noted at an inconsiderable depth, from 20-40 cm. C. glomerata was not found in places with a depth of 2 m or more in the river Skawa. Its absence perhaps being caused by the small intensity of light at that depth (D e n H a r t o g 1958).

C. glomerata develops most numerously and abundantly in places with a current in which the water is better aerated and new stores of nutritious salts are continuously brought by the current. The most abundant development of the thalli was observed in the faster flowing parts of the river, when the pH of the water was 8.8 (sampling place 7). At lower pH of the water in the Skawa (e.g. at sampling places 1, 2, 3, 10), the length of the thalli and intensity of the appearance of this algae were considerably reduced (Tables IV and VII).

Van den Hoek (1963) maintains that this plant develops more slowly and irregularly when the pH is lower than 7.5, and Hornung (1959) states that it does not tolerate a pH lower than 7.1. In some of the Skone lakes (southern Sweden) where the water has a lower pH, C. glomerata does not appear (Lundh 1951). Also Brand (Heering 1921) states that it cannot be found in swamps and peat-bogs. The vegetative reproduction of C. glomerata ceases and sporulation sets in when the pH is lower than 7.2—7.4 (Zernov 1949).

Zernov and Uspenski (1927) consider that an immediate cause of a better development of $C.\ glomerata$ in alkaline waters is the noxious accumulation of ferric ions in acid waters.

C. glomerata also develops in some polluted sectors of the river Skawa (e.g. in the neighbourhood of Wadowice); it does not grow, however, in strongly polluted places, such as small areas of the river in the immediate vicinity of the outlets of channels conveying waste waters. These

observations are confirmed by data given by Meschkat (1937), Kann (1940, 1959), and Thomas (1960) who observed the sensitivity of this alga to a high degree of pollution. Kolkwitz (1950) and Liebmann (1951) consider C. glomerata to be an oligosaprobic plant, and Zernov regards it as a β -mesosaprobic one.

C. glomerata demonstrates a considerable tolerance with regard to water temperature, which fluctuated in the river Skawa $11-21^{\circ}$ C during the period of investigation. The maximum temperature it can endure without harm is, according to Thurman (1952), 24° C. At higher temperatures its development is inhibited and the thalli are necrosed. Lower water temperatures ($+2^{\circ}$ C, Chudyba 1965) did not provoke any disturbances in the development of its thalli in the river Skawa. Zcharova (1923) states that the alga, when taken out of the water can endure "frost during one night".

In summing up the results of investigation and observation of the distribution of this species in the autumn period in the river Skawa, the following must be stated:

- 1. It appears along the whole length of the river Skawa, from its sources to its mouth and in all its tributaries, within an altitude range of 218—940 m.
- 2. A lack of selection is observed in relation to the substratum, but it avoids every living substratum, such as the shoots of aquatic plants, eac.
- 3. A complex of factors influence the maximum development of the thalli in the river Skawa, of which the most important are: a) a permanent substratum (stones, etc.); b) well illuminated places in the river, with a current velocity of 60—80 cm/sec., a depth of 60—80 cm and pure, well oxygenated water; c) a water temperature of 15—20°C, pH 8.8, alkalinity of 1.8—2.2, and hardness of 6.2.
- 4. The most favourable conditions for a luxuriant and copious development of the thalli are provided by the central, montane sector of the river Skawa.

Variability of the thalli

Two groups clearly differing from each other can be distinguished in the collected thalli of *C. glomerata*: the thalli from places with a current (*Cladophora glomerata rheobenthicum*) and those from the places with no current (*Cladophora glomerata limnobenthicum*).

In places with a current the thalli had a typical tuft-like form. They were usually strongly branched and terminated in the upper parts with very numerous, oblong, brush-like systems of offshoots.

The morphology of the thalli is very varied, sometimes even difficult to determine. Mostly they had the form of branched clusters with

a strongly developed main axis and many lateral branches — or many forms of cymose branchings. The thallus was frequently composed of several main axes, branched pseudo-dychotomically. The branchings were fairly frequently disposed on one side of the axis.

The thalli were sometimes slightly or fairly well saturated with calcium carbonate, but only in the basal parts. The length of the thalli was usually $20-100~\rm cm$.

In the montane sector of the Skawa (sampling places 5—8) *C. glomerata* fo. *longissima* Rabenh. (*C. longissima* Kütz), with strongly elongated thalli (80—120 cm long) and numerous lateral branches terminated in a brush-like manner, prevailed.

Fo. genuina (Kirch.) Brand and fo. callicoma Rabenh. (C. callicoma Kütz., C. Thurettii Bréb.) with short thalli (10—30 cm long) and branches of a more fimbriated character, of cymose type were also fairly frequently found.

In the submontane (sampling places 1—4) and the lowland (9, 10) courses of the river Skawa, the dominating type of thalli were fo. *genuina*, fo. *callicoma*, fo. *fasciculata* and fo. *rivularis*.

Besides the forms of thalli already mentioned, which always appeared in superior numbers, thalli connected with some phases of development, above all those of a form belonging to status juvenilis, status frondescens, status ramosus, and status stagnalis (Heering 1921), were found among them in greater or smaller numbers.

Thalli from lenitic places were short (from 0.5 to 4 cm) and grew only rarely on stones. They had very few or no branches. The membranes of cells were greatly thickened (up to 25 μ), distinctly stratified, and strongly saturated with calcium carbonate. Sometimes the incrustation with calcium was so great that the thalli became brittle.

The shape of the thalli resembled the typical forms of development: status hiemalis, status incrustans, status detersus, status refrondescens, and sometimes even status stagnalis.

The colour of the thalli was yellow or brown, caused by abundantly developing diatoms or by deposited slimy parts.

Accompanying algae

Before beginning a description of habitats, numerous comparative investigations, covering samples collected at the same sampling places and those collected at different ones, with or without current, were carried out.

The thalli of C. glomerata were usually accompanied in great numbers by many species of algae belonging to different systematic groups (Table VIII).

Table VIII. Floristic spectrum

	,	. 0	0	2	2	. 12	w	0	00	2	2	7	
Total	. D	10460	15250	17065	18967	21005	27253	27429	16568	17027	12987	181991	
Tot	number of genera	61	63	62	61	68	68	69	69	9	59	\$	92
	amoxet to redmunn	150	212	209	213	258	286	287	250	213	200	359	
	ď	32	31	27		8	N.	Ď	1	'	2	188	150
Fungi	number of genera	-	~	~	1	-	~	1	1	-	7	~	0.3
	smoxet to redmun	7	7	7	1	7	7	1	ı	1	7-	-	
Rhodophyta	ď	122	1	31	31	•	N	N	1	•	1	188	g
Rhodo	number of genera	7	1	7	7	1	~	~	1	1	. 1	CV ,	9.0
	snoxet to redmun	7	1	~	7	1	-	7	1	1	1	N	
Charophyta	д.	1	20	1	A	1	100	1	100	23	'	300	2
Char	number of genera	1	~	1	1	1	-	1	~	~	1	1	0.3
	amoxet lo redmun	'	-	1	1	1	~	1	-	7	-	1	
Chlorophyta	đ	981	2670	4129	1741	1444	3699	1989	980	2095	2624	22352	. 5
hlor	number of genera	19	18	19	19	24	19	25	23	20	16	59	17.5
0	number of taxons	32	45	41	38	47	39	48	37	30	27	62	
Bacillariophyceae	đ	8153	0406	10978	16451	17858	22184	23584	14222	12423	8109	145002	0.
lari	number of genera	25	28	27	56	27	30	53	53	28	28	去	69.0
Bacil	anoxet to redmun	\$	135	138	149	159	211	200	184	155	139	249	
Cyanophyta	ď	1771	1429	. 1884	714	1603	1264	1824	1226	2399	2201	15715	0.
yano	number of genera	4	#	13	4	15	15	13	7.	10	13	16	12.0
	anoxet to redmun	. 12	32	27	24	30	32	37	27	56	32	43	
Schizomycetes	ď	7	10	12	30	10	2	30	40	09	51	246	
izomy	number of genera	-	~	~	~	~	-	7	~	-	-	-	0.3
Sch	amoxed to medmum	7	-	~	-	-	~	~	~	~	-	-	
	Date	Sept.20	Sept.20	Sept.19	Sept.19	Sept.19	Sept.18	Sept.18	Sept.24	Sept.25	Sept.26	Total from all	Percentage of systematic units
	Locality	7	N	W	4	r.	9	2	00	0	10	Tota all loca	Perc of syst unit

On thalli living in the lotic parts of the river the same species of accompanying algae were found as in lenitic places, though in individual samples from places with a slow current floristic list were usually less plentiful. In thalli living in a strong current, particular species were usually represented by a larger number of specimens. However, these differences do not form a basis for distinguishing separate communities of algae accompanying *C. glomerata* in dependence on the rapidity of the current. Hence samples from lenitic places, usually containing a smaller amount of algae and a greater admixture of slime and sand, were not taken into consideration for a further characterisation of the community.

Samples originating from lotic places with a current of varying rapidity (Table IV) demonstrate a considerable similarity both in their composition and in the number of algae. It would result therefore that in the distinguished habitats of the river Skawa the rapidity of the current (up to 90 cm/sec.) did not play any significant role in the formation of the community of accompanying algae.

No significant difference was perceived in the qualitative and numerical composition of the algae accompanying *C. glomerata*, which originated from stones differing in size or mineralogical composition.

In samples collected at different depths (Table IV) no significant divergences were observed in the qualitative composition and number of accompanying algae. This is true also of samples from different parts of the same sampling place on a transversal and longitudinal section of the river.

A comparison of the material scraped off from places where the thalli of *Cladophora* had previously been cut off with *Cladophora* thalli cut off from the places showed much less diversity and a smaller number of species in the scraped off material. Species of algae which did not exist among the thalli that had been cut off were not found in the material.

For the reasons mentioned above, samples of material from places where the thalli of *C. glomerata* had been collected were omitted from further elaboration.

Slight changes in the temperature and chemism of the water (Table IV) at particular sampling places of the river Skawa had no influence on the composition of species nor on their abundance. In this connection the character of the totality of ecological factors in the river Skawa or in its particular sectors during the period of investigation may be considered as uniform.

A very significant dependence of the accompanying algae on the length and abundance of the thalli was observed. The longer and better branched the thalli, the greater was the diversity of species and the greater the number of specimens (Table VII, fig. 6). The number of dominants and subdominants also increased as the thalli of the *Cladophora* became longer and more plentifully branched.

It can therefore be assumed, on the grounds of the data presented here that in the description of a community, it would be most appropriate to take as basis material collected in places with a current. The application of a uniform method in characterising particular associations allows then to be compared without committing any great error.

The term accompanying algae has been given in this work to all plant organisms which grow on *C. glomerata* (as e.g. the epiphytic algae of the genus *Chamaesiphon*, *Meridion*, *Diatoma*, *Cocconeis*, *Navicula*, *Amphora*, *Eunotia*, *Cymbella*, *Gomphonema*, *Rhoicosphenia*, *Epithemia*, *Synedra*) or to those that develop in the compact net of its tangled filaments. As stated by Thurman (1952), the number of individuals on 1 cm of the length of the thalli of *C. glomerata* varied between 750 and 73 200, on the average 19 013 individuals.

In 100 samples with *C. glomerata* from the Skawa, a total of 358 systematic units of algae were determined representing 84 genera, 4 species of mosses, 1 species of fungus and 2 species of higher plants (fragments of shoots of *Myriophyllum spicatum* L., and *Potamogeton crispus* L.) entangled in the filaments of the algae. The numerical and percentage participation of particular systematic groups from the distinguished sampling places is presented in Table VIII.

At each separate sampling place as at all the sampling places together, diatoms appear in the greatest number, followed by green algae, bluegreen algae and then by a few representatives of other groups.

The greatest total coefficient of coverage, 143 002, is attained by diatoms, while green algae reach 22 352 only, and blue-green algae 15 715; other groups of plants have a relatively low coefficient of coverage.

The percentage participation of particular systematic groups of algae accompanying the *C. glomerata* in the river Skawa is as follows, compared with the complex of *C. glomerata* described by Sauer (1937):

	Sauer	Chudyba
Bacillariophyceae	66%	69%
Chlorophyta	16%	17%
Cyanophyta	9%	12%
Phaeophyta	3%	_
Rhodophyta	_	0.6%

The total number of species of algae accompanying the *C. glomerata* at particular sampling places is presented in fig. 4. The percentage participation of species from particular systematic groups as well as their coefficients is illustrated in fig. 5.

The total amount of all taxons of algae from particular systematic groups and their total coefficients of coverage at separate sampling places increase gradually at the length and abundance of *Cladophora* thalli become greater. The interpendence of these values is expressed graphically in fig. 6 and Tables VIII and $\overline{X}II$.

Sampling places 6, 7, and 8 in the montane sector of the Skawa (fig. 4) were found to possess the greatest number of species and of their specimens, represented in the total degree of coverage. Towards the sources and the mouth of the Skawa, the number of species of accom-

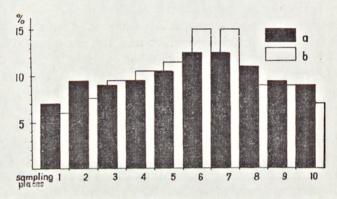


Fig. 4. Total amount of algae accompanying *C. glomerata* at particular sampling places of the river Skawa. a — total number of species; b — total coefficient of coverage for the total number of species

panying algae and the value of their total coefficients of coverage decreased; the length of *Cladophora* thalli and the abundance of their branches also diminished.

Species of the *Pennatae* class prevailed among the diatoms. Only 5 species belonged to the *Centricae* class (Table XII). The genera

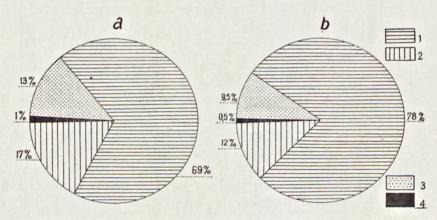


Fig. 5. Percentage participation of accompanying species from particular systematic groups. a — total number of species; b — total coefficient of coverage; 1 — Bacilla-riophyceae; 2 — Chlorophyta; 3 — Cyanophyta; 4 — remaining species

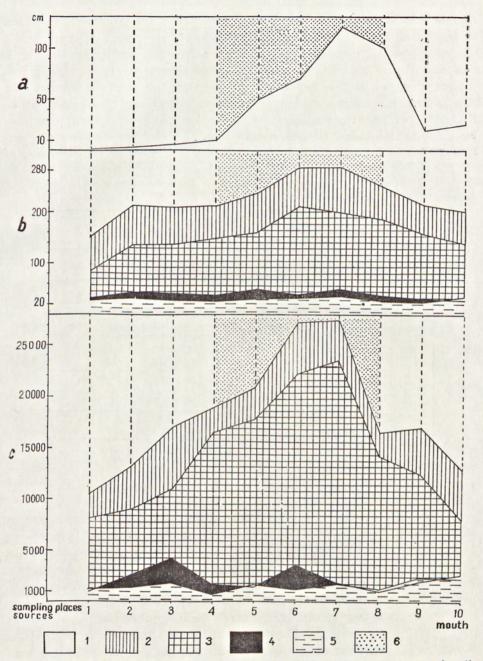


Fig. 6. Participation of algal species accompanying C. glomerata. a — average length of Cladophora thalli; b — number of species of accompanying algae; c — total coefficients of coverage; 1 — length of Cladophora thalli; 2 — total; 3 — Bacillariophyceae; 4 — Chlorophyta; 5 — Cyanophyta; 6 — sampling places at which the longest Cladophora thalli, the greatest number of accompanying algae and their highest total coefficient of coverage were observed

represented in the greatest numbers are the following: Navicula 33 species, varieties and forms, Nitzschia 30, Cymbella 18, Synedra 18, Fragilaria 16, Gomphonema 15, etc; of blue-green algae Phormidium 6, Oscillatoria 4, etc., and of green algae Closterium 9, Scenedesmus 6, etc.

Some accompanying algae appear only in the upper course of the Skawa, as e. g. Chamaesiphon incrustans var. elongatus, Closterium venus, Diploneis oculata, Navicula mutica, Nitzschia hungarica, Pinnularia molaris and some others. However, Homoeothrix fusca fo. elongata, Actinastrum Hantzschii, Cosmarium quadrum var. minus, Cymatopleura solea

Table IX. Biological spectrum of algae accompanying Cladophora glomerata in the river Skawa

Shape of thallus	Amount of taxons in particular biological groups	Total coefficient of coverage (P) in particular biological groups
Filamentous and bushy algae attached together with Cladophora glomerata to the substratum	11	5 850
Plat and crustaceous algae attached with Cladophora glomerata to the substratum	6	804
Filamentous and bushy algae unattached to the substratum, distributed loosely among Cladophora glomerata thalli	29	12 719
Algae with single cells joined in bands, zigzags, small fans etc., loosely distributed among Cladophora glomerata thalli	45	37 259
Epiphytes attached to Cladophora glomerata thalli by means of stylets	22	17 503
Epiphytes attached directly (sitting ones) to Cladophora glomerata thalli	64	53 398
Single cells and small colonies loosely maintaining themselves among the tangled thalli of Cladophora glomerata	182	54 458

var. clavata, Cymbella tumida, Gomphonema gracile, Stephanodiscus Hantzschii, Tabellaria fenestrata are found exclusively in the lower course of the river.

Among the diatoms found, 32 species and varieties are considered as characteristic for montane waters: Caloneis alpestris, C. silicula var. alpina Diatoma anceps, D. hiemale, Neidium affine var. amphirhynchus, Achnanthes linearis, A. lanceolata and var. elliptica, A. minutissima, Eucocconeis flexella, Ceratoneis arcus, Cymbella aequalis, C. laevis, C. perpusilla, Denticula elegans, Eunotia arcus, Fragilaria capucina var. mesolepta, F. virescens and var. mesolepta, Gomphonema longiceps, G. gracile, Navicula mutica, N. rotaeana, Nitzschia sublinearis, Pinnularia borealis, P. microstauron with var. Brebissonii, P. molaris and var. lapponica, P. subsolaris, P. viridis var. sudetica, and Tabellaria flocculosa.

The remaining 326 forms of diatoms are widespread in flowing and stagnant waters of various types and can be found in all kinds of localities.

A considerable part of the algae found were typical epiphytes, the remainder being free-living plankton and benthos algae. 86 forms of epiphytic algae were determined. They demonstrated the greatest degree of stability and the greatest numbers at particular sampling places and in general (Table IX).

Description of the community

The species composition of accompanying algae was not quite identical in different localities, but it was always approximate. A specially great resemblance cann be seen between sampling places in the middle sector of the river (sampling places 4 to 8). The limits between particular

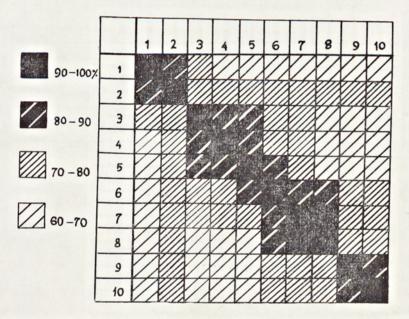


Fig. 7. Table of coefficients of similitude for 10 sampling places at which communities of *C. glomerata* were found in the river Skawa, aranged according to the method of J. Czekanowski (Kulczyński 1928, 1940)

sampling places were never sharply defined. Even at sampling places of the source parts (sampling places 1, 2) and those of the mouth of the river (9, 10) a certain constant combination of species characteristic for all the localities was maintained.

As can be seen from the fig. 7 presenting the distribution of coefficients of resemblance for 10 investigated sampling places all samples from the river Skawa have high coefficients of resemblance, attaining 60—100 per cent, and belong therefore to a single group. This group is not entirely homogeneous (fig. 7).

The sampling places of the source parts (1, 2) and from the sector of the mouth of the river Skawa (9, 10), when compared with those of the central part of the river's course (4, 8), have a lower coefficient of resemblance. Lower coefficients of resemblance can also be found between sampling places distant from each other (as e. g. sampling places 2 and 10, 5 and 9, etc.). Sampling places situated close to each other are very similar (sampling places 3, 4, 5; 5, 6, 7, 8; etc.).

It was concluded therefore, in connection with the data obtained and the great similitude of ecological factors existing in the selected localities of the river Skawa, that the groups of algae accompanying *C. glomerata* at all the sampling places of the river form one type of community and a single phytocenose with a similar floristic composition and a similar structure.

The community is composed of many species, of which one, the *C. glomerata*, dominates, forming the principal structural trunk of the whole community, around which the remaining species accompanying its thalli are "entwined".

A considerable number of accompanying algae appear at all the sampling places of the river Skawa, or at least at 80 per cent of them, demonstrating only smaller or greater numerical variations. Of these species 130 were found, distributed in the following manner:

	% of	sampling p	laces
	80-90	100	Total
Schizomycetes	_	1	1
Cyanophyta	9	9	18
Bacillariophyceae	43	43	86
Chlorophyta	15	10	25
Total:	63	67	130

Species present at at least 80 per cent of the investigated sampling places should be further divided into two groups:

- 1. Especially characteristic species or dominants, with classes of constancy V and IV (Table X).
- 2. Accompanying species (subdominants) having the IIIrd and IInd class of constancy, and accidental or accessory species (adominants) with the I class of constancy.

Of the dominating species in particular localities only a small number are common to all sampling places and these seam to be characteristic for the community. The remaining dominants from some of the sampling places should rather form a basis for determining the facies or subfacies.

Species dominating at all sampling places, or at least at 80 per cent of them, are listed in Table XI, according to the decreasing mean total of the coefficients of coverage (P). Only the five first species, Diatoma vulgare var. productum, Cocconeis placentula var. euglypta, Chamaesi-

phon incrustans, Diatoma elongatum var. tenue, and Gomphonema olivaceum, should be considered as specially distinguishing the *C. glomerata* complex. These are species having a total coefficient of coverage above 2700.

Table X. Degree of constancy of dominating species in particular localities of the river Skawa

No	Locality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Tota
1	Calothrix kossinskajae	-	_	-	-	IV	-	-	-	IV	-	632
2	Chamaesiphon incrustans	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	v	3902
3	Homeothrix varians	-	-	-	-	-	IV	IV		IV	-	692
4	Phormidium subfuscum	IV	IV	-	-	-	IV	IV	IV	-	-	1031
5	Achnanthes affinis	-	-	-		IV		-	-	-	-	405 621
6	- lanceolata	-	IA	-	IV	IV	IV	IV	-	-	-	709
7	var. rostrata	-	-		IV	V		IV	717	-	-	1330
8	- minutissima	IV	V	IV	V	V	IV	IV	IV	-	-	1220
9	Cocconeis pediculus	-	IV	IV	V	IV	V	IV			-	1321
10	- placentula	V	V	V	V	V	IV	V	IV	V	v	2579 4240
11	var. euglypta	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		617
12	Cyclotella meneghiniana	-	-	-		IA	IV	IV	-	-	-	2258
13	Cymatopleura solea	-	-	-	IV	-	IV	IV	-			2202
14	var. apiculata	-	-	IV	IV	-	-	IV	IV	v	v	1792
15	Cymbella affinis	-	-	IV	-	-	-	IV				2388
16	- helvetica var. balatonis	-	-	-	-			IV		-	-	2262
17	- var. curta	1 -	-	-	-	IV	IV	IV	IV	-	-	
18	- prostrata	V	-	-	-	IV	-	IV	-	-	-	2618
19	- sinuata	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	302
20	- ventricosa	IV	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	-	-	2490
21	Denticula tenuis var.crassula	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	-	-	322
22	Diatoma elongatum var. tenue	IV	IV	v	IV	IV	V	V	V	V	V	3003
23	- vulgare	-	-	-	-	IV	IV	-	-	-	-	1812
24	var. capitulatum	-	-	-	-	-	V	-	771	V	-	927
25	var. ehrenbergii	-	V	-	-	-	IV	V	IV	-	-	2828
26	var. lineare	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	-	1481
27	var. ovale	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	-	460
8	var. productum	IV	V	IV	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	7608
29	Eunotia arcus	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	5'
30	Fragilaria capucina	-	-	-	-	-	IV	V	IV	V	V	3150
31	var. mesolepta	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	V	V	1993
32	- intermedia	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV		-	-	234
33	var. dubia	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	550
33	- pinnata	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	170
25	- virescens var. mesolepta	-	-	-	-	IV	-	IV	-	-	-	2406
36	Gomphonema acuminatum	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	149
20		-	-	-	-	_	-	IV	IV	-	- 1	412
37 38	- angustatum - gracile	_	-	_	-	_	_	IV	-	-	-	180
39	- intricatum var. pumilum	-	_	-	-	_	-	IV	IV	_	-	272
40	- longiceps	-	-	-	-	-	-	V	IV	-	-	881
+1	var. subclavatum	-	-	-	-	_	-	IV	-	IV	-	1808
42	- olivaceum	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	2765
43	var. calcareum	1 -	-	-	v	v	IV	IV	_	IV	-	1058
44	- parvulum		_	_		_		IV	IV	IV	-	701
		V	_	_	IV		_	_	-	-	-	3240
45	Melosira varians Navicula anglica	-	v	_	ĪV	IV		IV	_	_	-	676
46	- bacillum	-	-				IV	IV	_	_	-	561
47		-	_	_	IV	IV	1	-	_	_	_	561 720
18	- cryptocephala - cryptocephala var. exilis		_	_	-		-	IV	_	_	-	326
+9		IV	-	IV	_	_		īv	-	-	-	2080
50 51 552 554 556 557 559 559 559	- gracilis - pupula	1	-		-	_		ÎV	_	_	-	489
27		-	IV	_	-	IV	_	IV	_	_	-	747
25	- tuscula	-	14		-	IV	IV	-	_	_	_	788
23	- viridula		_	IV		14	IV	v	-	IV	V	1283
74	Nitzschia dissipata	IV		IV	-		14		-	-	-	4280
25	- sigmoidea	TA	-	14		v	v	v		-	-	1375
6	- sinuata var. tabellaria	17	-	-						_	_	662
57	Rhoicosphenia curvata	V	-	IV	IV	IV	-	IV	_	-	=	584
58	Surirella ovata	-	-	-	-	V	-	TA	_	-	-	1940
59	Synedra acus	-	-	-	-		-	IV	-	-	-	220
	- rumpens	-	-	-	-	-	-		IV	IV	-	776
51	var. fragilarioides	-	-	-	-	-	-	IV			IV	0000
62	- ulna	-	-	-	IV	V	IV	V	IV	V		7090
63	var. amphirhynchus	-	-	-	-	IV	-	IV	IV	IV	-	1890
64	- vaucheriae	-	-	-	-	IV	IV	IV	-	IV	-	107
65	Scenedesmus quadricauda	-	-	IV	-	-	-	IV	-	-	-	794
	Ulothrix zonata	-	-	-	-	IV	IV	-	-	-	-	1361
66												

77 species constantly appearing at all sampling places of the river Skawa were found. They never attained the Vth and IVth degree of constancy and are reckoned among the groups of dominants and subdominants. Of these, 1 species belong to the Schizomycetes, 14 to Cyanophyta, 39 to Bacillariophyceae, and 23 to the Chlorophyta.

None of the subdominants, although they accompany the *C. glomerata* thalli at all sampling places, play any imortant role in the community, owing to their low class of constancy.

229 species, present at less than 80 per cent of the sampling places in the river Skawa were found — 1 species of Fungus, 25 Cyanophyta, 163 Bacillariophyceae, 37 Chlorophyta and 2 Rhodophyta species.

Table XI. Coefficient of coverage of dominating species accompanying Cladophora glomerata thalli in the river Skawa

No	Species	P
1.	Diatoma vulgare var. productum	7 608
2.	Cocconeis placentula var +uglypta	4 240
3.	Chamaesiphon incrustans	3 902
4.	Diatoma elongatum var. tenue	3 003
5.	Gomphonema olivaceum	2 765
6.	Cocconeis placentula	2 579
7.	Cymbella ventricosa	2 490
8.	Achnanthes minutissima	1 330

No definite opinion can be formed as to the role of these species in the differentiation of the community nor as to the possibility of their development. They appear as single specimens or in slightly greater numbers as subdominants. Among them only Diatoma vulgare var. Ehrenbergii was a dominant in four localities and Gomphonema angustatum, b. intricatum var. pumilum, and G. longiceps were dominants in two sampling places.

Species of diatoms like the following: Achnanthes affinis, Cymbella helvetica var. balatonis, C. sinuata, Eunotia arcus, Fragilaria intermedia var.dubia, F. pinnata, Gomphonema acuminatum, G. gracile and Synedra rumpens were each dominants in only one sampling place. In this group of algae the presence of dead cells was frequently noted. This might signify that these species were probably transported by the current from other parts of the river Skawa or of its tributaries.

A group of 130 species constantly accompanying *C. glomerata* at all the sampling places of the river Skawa or at 80 per cent of them at least, was considered as being specially connected with the community. In this group only dominants with an extensive range of appearance, thus those which were constantly and numerously found at all sampling places (Table XI), were regarded as characteristic (leading) species.

Among the characteristic species thus distinguished many ubiquitous ones can be found, whose distribution is very extensive. However, as the majority of algae are ubiquitous or even cosmopolitan a description of the community based on dominating species seems to be sufficient at present. Dominating species also have a basic importance in the transmission of energy from one trophic level to another (Starmach 1962 a).

The coefficients of coverage of some of the more important dominants at successive sampling places of the river Skawa are graphically re-

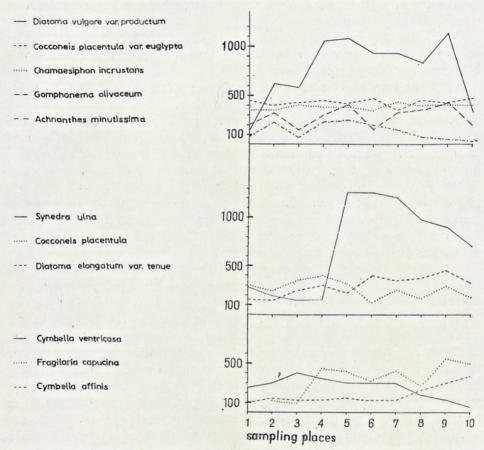


Fig. 8. Coefficients of coverage (P) of several more important dominants of the C. glomerata community at particular sampling places of the river Skawa

presented in fig. 8. They are typical epiphytes and, for this reason, the investigated C. glomerata community in the river Skawa has been differentiated under the name of Cladophoretum glomeratae-epiphytosum rheobenthicum. Leading species, appearing everywhere and in a large number of specimens, are the following: Diatoma vulgare var. productum, Cocconeis placentula var. euglypta, Chamaesiphon incrustans, Diatoma elongatum var. tenue and Gomphonema olivaceum. These species also accompanied the C. glomerata in the river Skawa as dominants during all seasons of the year (Chudyba 1965). The differentiated

community appears in its most typical form in the middle sector of the river Skawa at sampling places 5—8.

Communities at the sampling places 1—4 and 9 and 10, demonstrating a small but constant deviation in their quantitative composition and list of dominants when compared with the typical community present in the middle course of the river Skawa, were distinguished as separate variants (facies) of the community:

- 1. in the upper regions of the river Skawa a facies in which the accompanying *Achnanthes minutissima*, *Cocconeis placentula*, and *Cymbella ventricosa* participate.
- 2. In the lower sector of the river Skawa a facies containing Synedra ulna, Fragilaria capucina, and Cymbella affinis.

A large part of the algae accompanying *C. glomerata* in the river Skawa are undoubtedly eutrophic species appearing in different groups in the transversal and longitudinal section of the investigated river. The question arises whether the differentiated community of algae developing in the *C. glomerata* concentrations of the river Skawa forms a separate phytocenose bearing the character of a group. Should the species composition of algae accompanying *Cladophora* in the river Skawa be considered as strictly connected with these thalli and with the ecological properties of the environment in general?

Neither the investigations carried nor the data from literature provide as yet any definitive answer. Communities defined as Cladophoretum glomeratae groups by Nauman (1926), Sauer (1937), Margalef (1949), Symoens (1951, 1954, 1957), or Bohr (1962) have many similar features and even a certain number of species in common. Differences exist, however, in the floristic composition, numerousness or in the degree of constancy in particular common species. Sauer (1937) and also Bohr (1962) presume that C. glomerata may be a common species for several groups of algae appearing in flowing or stagnant fresh waters. It should be considered, therefore, as a species characteristic for a higher systematic unit, as e.g. an association of groups. Further investigation in different water environments would still be necessary.

Many fundamental difficulties arise, mostly of a methodological nature, in finding common criteria when comparing the results of the present work with those obtained by the authors mentioned above. Ecological data concerning species forming the investigated community are also not very well known.

Notes concerning some species

Asterothrix rhaphidioides (Reinsch spec.) Printz (Tetracladium marchalianum De Wild.) (fig. 10). An aquatic fungus of the group Fungi imperfecti, Hyphales order. Colour of thalli light-green. Walls of

cells often indistinct. Main axis 30—40 μ long, 2—5 μ broad. Length of processes 40—50 μ , breadth 2—4 μ . Conidiae 3—6 μ , broad, 5—16 μ in length. Single specimens, especially in the upper sector of the Skawa. Ingold, Ranzoni and Nilsson (Dudka 1962) consider this species as the most widespread of all species of aquatic fungi. Common in stagnant and flowing waters up to an altitude of 2000 m (Huber-Pestalozzi 1925, 1938). I infer, on the basis of the accessible literature, that this species is a new one for Poland.

Achnanthes lanceolata (Bréb.) Grun. var. elliptica C. (fig. 15). Length of valves 11—16 μ , breadth 5—5.5 μ , 12—13 striae on the epitheca in 10 μ . Rather common, mostly in the upper course of the Skawa. Siemińska (1964) considers this variety as a typical north-alpine one, found in Poland in upper montane localities.

Caloneis silicula (E h r.) C l. var. alpina C l. (fig. 26). Valves 20—27 μ long, 5—6 μ broad, 20 striae in 10 μ . Found very seldom, only in the middle course of the Skawa. A typically alpine variety. Recorded in Poland only in Biała Pszemsza and in the neighbourhood of Kraków (S i e m i ńs k a 1964).

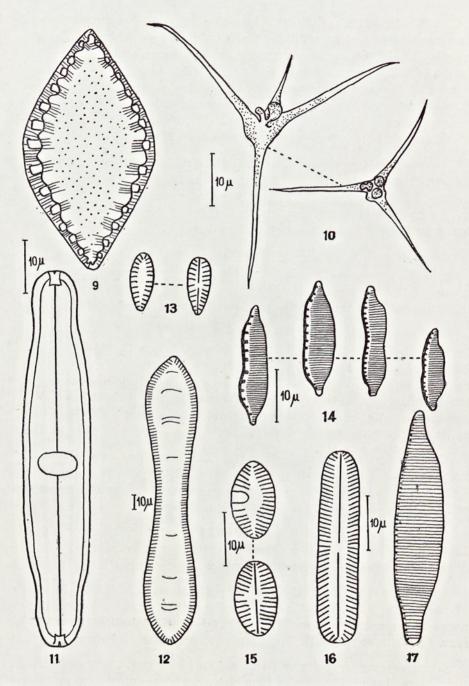
Cymatopleura solea (B r é b) W. S m. var. clavata O. Müller (fig. 12). Length of valves 180—230 μ , breadth 20—35 μ , 6—7 striae in 10 μ . On the surface of the valves 5—7 folds, between which delicate dots appear. Single specimens were found in the mouth sector of the Skawa. Variety known from plankton of Nyassa and Malombase (H u b e r - P e s t a l o z-z i 1942). Not hitherto noted in Poland.

C. solea var. vulgaris M e i s t. (fig. 22). Length of valves 140—150 μ , breadth in the middle of the cell 18—20 μ , 25—30 μ in the broadest part, 7 striae in 10 μ . It was found fairly frequently, mostly in the upper sector of the Skawa. Apperently not reported in Poland.

C. solea var. subconstricta O. Müller (fig. 23). Length of valves $120-140~\mu$ breadth $23-27~\mu$, 7 striae in $10~\mu$. Found in nearly all localities of the Skawa in small quantities. Apparently not reported in Poland.

Fragilaria intermedia Grun. var. capitellata A. Cl. (fig. 24). Length of valves 15—22 μ , breadth 5 μ , 18—20 striae in 10 μ . Found in small numbers in nearly all localities. Found in Kamchatka (Proškina-Lavrenko et al. 1951). Apparently not reported in Poland.

Gomphonema tergestinum (G r u n.) F r i c k e (fig. 25). Valves 18—22 μ long, 5—6 μ broad, 12 striae in 10 μ ; characteristic central area unilaterally developed, reaching the border of the valve with one dot situated in its centre. Found in small quantities at different sampling places. Specimens found had typical features in accordance with the diagnosis given by



Figs 9—17. 9 — Surirella turgida; 10 — Asterothrix rhaphidioides; 11 — Neidium affine var. minus: 12 — Cymatopleura solea var. clavata; 13 — Rhoicosphenia Vanheurckii; 14 — Nitzschia pseudoamphioxys; 15 — Achnanthes lanceolata var. elliptica; 16 — Pinnularia molaris var. lapponica; 17 — Nitzschia angustata var. curta

Hustedt (1930), Proškina-Lavrenko et al. (1951), Siemińska (1964), and also by Bílý and Hanuška (1952). A specimen very similar in appearance is described by Cleve-Euler (1953) as Gomphonema intricatum Kütz. var. dichotomum (Kütz.) Grun. fo. semipura (Vol. IV; 18, fig. 1283 t). The shape of the specimens found also resemble the very variable species Gomphonema angustatum (Kütz.) Rabh. (Cleve-Euler, Vol. IV; 179, fig. 1270). G. tergestinum is considered as a very rare species. It has been reported in Poland in the neighbourhood of Kraków and Podole (Siemińska 1964).

Navicula graciloides A. M a y e r (fig. 27). Valves 35—40 μ long, 7—8 μ broad, 13 striae in 10 $\mu.$ Found very seldom as single specimens. H u s t e d t (1930) maintains that this species should be included in the range of variability of Navicula cari E h r. Reported in Poland among other places in the vicinity of Gdańsk (S i e m i ń s k a 1964).

Neidium affine (Ehr.) Cl. var. minus Cl. (fig. 11) Single specimens were found only at sampling places 2 and 6. The variety is rather seldom found; it has been reported from the lakes Baikal and Onega (Proški-na-Lavrenko et al. 1951). Not hitherto reported in Poland.

Nitzschia angustata (W. Sm.) Grun. fo. antiqua (Schum.) A. Cl. (fig. 20). Length of valves 35—39 μ , breadth 5—6 μ , about 21 striae in 10 μ . 12 strongly defined dots in 10 μ . In the investigated material it appears fairly often at nearly all sampling places. Not hitherto reported in Poland.

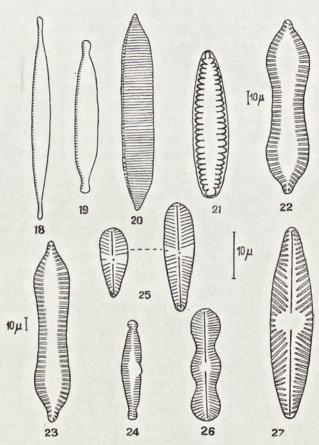
N. angustata var. curta Grun. (fig. 17). Valves 38—45 μ long. 5—6 μ broad, 14—16 striae in 10 μ . Found fairly often in the upper sector of the Skawa. Reported in the eastern regions of USSR (Proškina-Lavrenko et. 1951). Apparently not reported in Poland.

N. gracilis Hantzsch. var. capitata Wils. et Poretzky (fig. 18). Length of valves 39—42 μ , breadth 3—3.5 μ , 13—15 dots on the crista in 10 μ . Single specimens found in the upper and lower sectors of the river Skawa. Reported by Proškina-Lavrenko et al. from the river Usolka (Solikamsk). Apparently not reported in Poland.

 $N.\ palea\ (K\ "u\ t\ z.)\ W.\ S\ m.\ var.\ capitata\ Wils.\ et\ Poretzky$ (fig. 19). Valves 25—35 u long, 2—5 u broad, 14 dots on the crista in 10 μ . It differs from $N.\ palea$ in its extremities which terminate cephalically. Found in small numbers different sampling places. Proškina-Lavrenko et al. (1951) has reported it in the plankton of the river Nevka. In Poland reported only in the Rogoźnik (Kawecka 1964).

N. pseudoamphioxys H u s t. (fig. 14). Length of cases $20-23\,\mu$, breadth $4-5\,\mu$, 7-8 dots on the crista in $10\,\mu$, about 24 delicate transversal striae in $10\,\mu$. Found very seldom, mostly in the lower course of the Skawa.

This species has, according to Huber-Pestalozzi (1942), a tendency to form asymmetric forms, very similar to $Hantzschia\ amphioxys$ (Ehr.) Grun. which, as Siemińska (1964) maintains, is a very variable species and forms numerous varieties appearing mostly in sources and streams.



Figs 18—27. 18 — Nitzschia gracilis var. capitata; 19 — N. palea var. capitata; 20 — N. angustata fo. antiqua; 21 — Surirella angustata var. elongata; 22 — Cymatopleura solea var. vulgaris; 23 — C. solea var. subconstricta; 24 — Fragilaria intermedia var. capitellata; 25 — Gomphonema tergestinum; 26 — Caloneis silicula var. alpina; 27 — Navicula graciloides

Pinnularia molaris Grun. var. lapponica Mölder (fig. 16). Length of valves 30—35 μ , breadth 6—8 μ , 9—10 striae in 10 μ . Very few specimens found in the upper sector of the Skawa. A rare variety, found in the waters of Finland (Proškina-Lavrenko et al. 1951). Not hitherto reported in Poland.

Rhoicosphenia Vanheurckii G r u n. (fig. 13). Valves 8—9 μ long, 3—5 μ broad, 14 striae in 10 μ . Found as single specimens at various sampling

places in the Skawa. Acording to Hustedt (1932—1966), it is doubtful species, probably one of the irregularly developed *Gomphonema* species, difficult to determine owing to its great variability. The species has been reported from France, Belgium, and the USSR (Proškina-Lavren-ko et al. 1951, Siemińska 1964).

Surirella angustata Kütz. var. elongata Skv. (fig. 21). Length of valves 25—29 $\mu,$ breadth 6 $\mu,$ 7 small costae in 10 $\mu,$ about 25 delicate striae in 10 $\mu.$ Found in small numbers, mostly in the upper sector of the Skawa. Apparently not reported in Poland.

S. turgida W. Sm. (fig. 9). Valves $40-45~\mu$ long, $25-35~\mu$ broad, 3 tubules of alae in $10~\mu$; the dimensions were slightly smaller than those given by Proškina-Lavrenko et al. (1951) and Siemińska (1964). Found rarely at different sampling places. Reported as widespread in western Europe and in USSR (Proškina-Lavrenko et al. 1951).

Results

Cladophora glomerata appeared in the whole course of the river Skawa, from its sources to its mouth and in all its affluents, at an altitude from 218 to 940 m. The maximum development of the thalli depended upon a complex of factors, of which the most important were: a constant substratum (as e.g. stones of medium size etc.), well illuminated parts with a courrent in the river, water temperature of 15—20°C, pH 8.8, alkalinity of water 1.8—2.2 mv, and hardness of water 6.2.

The most suitable conditions for a luxuriant and abundant development of the thalli were created by the central montane sector of the river Skawa (sampling places 5—8).

The thalli collected in the Skawa can be divided into two groups distinctly different from each other from the morphological point of view: thalli from parts with a current determined as *Cladophora glomerata rheobenthicum* and thalli from places with no current, determined as *Cladophora glomerata limnobenthicum*.

Among accompanying algae the following were determined: macroscopic algae growing on the substratum with *C. glomerata*, epiphytic algae attaching themselves directly or by means of stylets to the *C. glomerata* cells, and unattached algae existing loosely among the others. Altogether 358 species and lower systematic units of accompanying algae were determined. *C. glomerata* thalli were also found entangled with mosses and flowering aquatic plants (Table XII).

In concentrations of *Cladophora* thalli in shallower parts with a current the following mosses were found, sometimes appearing fairly abundantly: *Hygrohypnum luridum* (H e d w.) Jennings, *Hygroamblystegium flu-*

Table XIX. Species collected in 1963 together with Cladophora glomerata thall! in the river Skawa, with regard to their constancy and coefficient of coverage (P) (10 samples from each locality were investigated)

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Locality	⁴ Date	Name of species	Cymbella helvetica var. balatonis (Grun) Claravis NWG. - var. ourte Gl. - lancelata (Ehr.) V. H. - lancelata (Ehr.) V. H. - naviculiformis Ahersw. - perva (W.Sm.) Cl. - prostrata (Berk.) Cl. - prostrata (Berk.) V. H. - tundia (Brb.) V. H. - var. crasulla (NWg.) Hast. - tundia (Brb.) V. H. - var. crasulla (NWg.) Hast. - var. crasulla (NWg.) - var. productum Grun. - plipiaeis (Ehr.) Kutz. - lungida (Ehr.) Kutz. - turgida (Ehr.) Kutz. - var. sazonica (Kutz.) Grun. - var. mesolepta Rabenh. - var. mesolepta Rabenh. - construens (Ehr.) Grun. - var. wenter (Ehr.) Grun.

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viatile (Hedw.) Lska and Brachythecium rivulare (Bruch) br. eur. It is possible that this may be the next, higher stage (succession) of development of the C. glomerata community, in which the principal role would belong to mosses. However, this demands further, detailed investigation.

Some species of accompanying algae appear exclusively in the upper course of the Skawa, others only in its lower course. Among them are many species characteristic for montane waters, but the very great majority is composed of ubiquitous and common species.

In places with or without current the same species of accompanying algae appeared, but the number of specimens was smaller, on the whole, in material from places with no current; in lenitic places the admixture of particles of slime was greater.

The total number of taxons of accompanying algae found in particular systematic groups and their total coefficients of coverage increased gradually as the length and abundance of *C. glomerata* thalli increased: the longer and better branched the thalli, the greater became the diversity of acompanying algae and the more numerous their specimens (fig. 6, Tables VII and VIII).

On the basis of dominating species with a high constancy class, the community of *Cladophora glomerata-epiphytosum rheobenthicum*, typically developed in the middle course of the Skawa, was differentiated. A facies characteristic for the upper course and a second one for the lower course of the river were also distinguished.

Among the determined species of algae the author found some species new to Polish flora and several of seldom reported species.

STRESZCZENIE

Na podstawie całokształtu omówionych badań i obserwacji nad rozmieszczeniem *Cladophora glomerata* i glonów towarzyszących w rzece Skawie w okresie jesiennym można stwierdzić że:

C. glomerata występowała w całym biegu rzeki Skawy od źródeł aż po ujście oraz we wszystkich jej dopływach, od 218 do 940 m n.p.m. (ryc. 1).

Maksymalny rozwój plech w rzece Skawie uzależniony był od kompleksu czynników, z których najważniejsze to: stałe podłoże (np. średniej wielkości kamienie itp.), miejsca prądowe rzeki dobrze oświetlone, temperatura wody 15—20°C, pH 8,8, zasadowość wody 1,8—2,2 mv, twardość wody 6,2 (tabela IV i VII).

Najkorzystniejsze warunki, do bujnego i obfitego rozwoju plech stwarzał środkowy, górski odcinek rzeki Skawy (stanowiska 5–8; tabela VII i ryc. 6).

Plechy gałęzatki zebrane w rzece Skawie można podzielić na dwie grupy wyraźnie różniące się między sobą pod względem morfologicznym: plechy z miejsc prądowych określane jako Cladophora glomerata rheobenthicum oraz plechy z miejsc bezprądowych określane jako Cladophora glomerata limnobenthicum.

Wśród glonów towarzyszących wyróżniono glony makroskopowe porastające podłoże wraz z plechami gałęzatki, glony epifityczne przyczepiające się bezpośrednio lub

za pomocą stylików do komórek gałęzatki oraz glony utrzymujące się lużno pomiędzy tamtymi. Ogółem oznaczono 358 gatunków i niższych jednostek systematycznych glonów towarzyszących (tabela VIII i XII); ponadto znajdowano plechy gałęzatki splątane z mchami i z kwiatowymi roślinami wodnymi.

W skupieniach plech gałęzatki w płytszych prądowych partiach rzeki Skawy znajdowano mchy: Hygrohypnum luridum (Hedw.) Jennings, Hygroamblystegium fluviatile (Hedw.) Lske i Brachythecium rivulare (Bruch.) Br. eur., występujące niekiedy dość obficie. Być może, że jest to następne, wyższe stadium (sukcesja) rozwojowe zbiorowiska C. glomerata, w którym główną rolę odgrywałyby mchy. Stwierdzenie to wymaga jednak dalszych dokładnych badań.

Niektóre gatunki glonów towarzyszących występują wyłącznie w górnym biegu Skawy, niektóre wyłącznie w dolnym biegu. Jest też między nimi sporo gatunków charakterystycznych dla wód górskich, jednak ogromna większość to gatunki ubikwistyczne, pospolite.

W miejscach prądowych i bezprądowych występowały te same gatunki glonów towarzyszących jedynie ilości okazów były na ogół nieco mniejsze w miejscach lenitycznych, w których domieszka cząstek mułu była większa.

Ogólna ilość znalezionych jednostek systematycznych glonów towarzyszących z poszczególnych grup systematycznych i ich sumaryczne współczynniki pokrycia stopniowo wzrastały wraz ze wzrostem długości i obfitości plech gałęzatki: im plechy były dłuższe i lepiej rozgałęzione tym większa była różnorodność glonów towarzyszących i większe liczby ich okazów (ryc. 6, tabela VII i VIII).

Uwzględniając gatunki dominujące o wysokiej klasie stałości, wyróżniono zbiorowisko Cladophoretum glomeratae-epiphytosum rheobenthicum wykształcone typowo w środkowym biegu Skawy. Ponadto wyróżniono fację charakterystyczną dla górnego biegu i drugą dla dolnego biegu rzeki.

Wśród oznaczonych gatunków glonów autor znalazł kilka gatunków nowych dla flory Polski oraz szereg gatunków rzadko podawanych.

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