

# A bloom of *Prorocentrum triestinum* in the Hossegor Marine Lake (France)

Phytoplankton communities in the Hossegor marine lake (Southern French Atlantic coast, Fig. 1) have been monthly monitored since 1997 to protect human health (REPHY network: monitoring of toxin producing species which may contaminate cultivated oysters) and environmental (EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) network) purposes.

This shallow, eutrophic marine lake which is subject to opportunistic green algae blooms is fed by a narrow canal that receives water from the ocean and

two small rivers. Water temperature ranges between 10 and 25° C and salinity between 20 and 35. In this lake, the phytoplanktonic communities are usually dominated by marine species (*i.e.* *Leptocylindrus minimus*, *Dactyliosolen fragilissimus*, *Cylindrotheca closterium*) whilst blooms of freshwater species (Cyanobacteria: *Planktothrix agardhii*) may occur during periods of high river discharge.

In August 2019, following the observation of a brown coloured water

phenomenon, analysis of water samples revealed high abundances (about 6 million cells per liter) of *Prorocentrum triestinum* (class *Dinophyceae*, order *Prorocentrales*, Fig. 2). This was the first observation of this species in this lake. Since then, its presence has been quite sporadic due to the high tidal-induced renewal of water within the lake.

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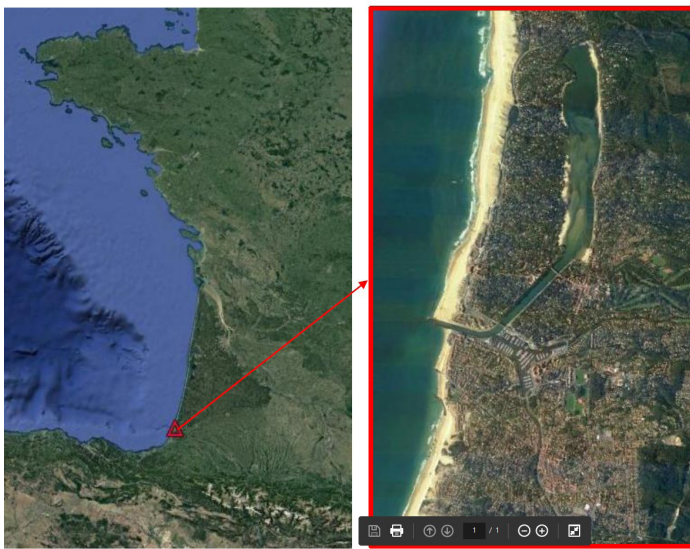


Fig. 1. Study area - Hossegor marine lake

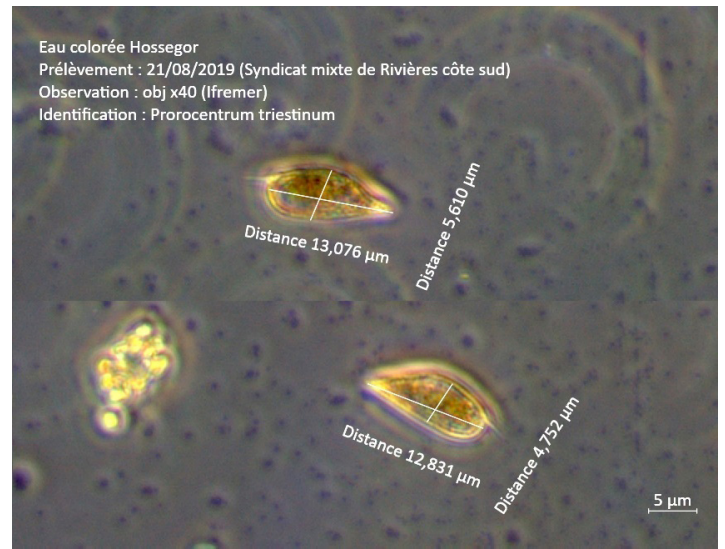


Fig. 2. *Prorocentrum triestinum* (fixed with neutral Lugol's solution) in a lake water sample collected during August 2019.

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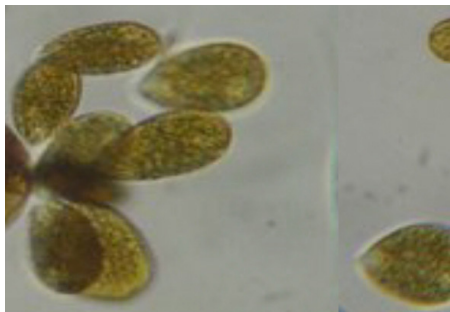


Fig. 3. Micrographs of *Ostreopsis cf. ovata*

Mediterranean Sea. Results of this study may contribute to a better understanding of *Ostreopsis* ecology and population dynamics and its trends in Alexandria waters. In addition, it provides the basis for an effective bloom management and mitigation of its effects.

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