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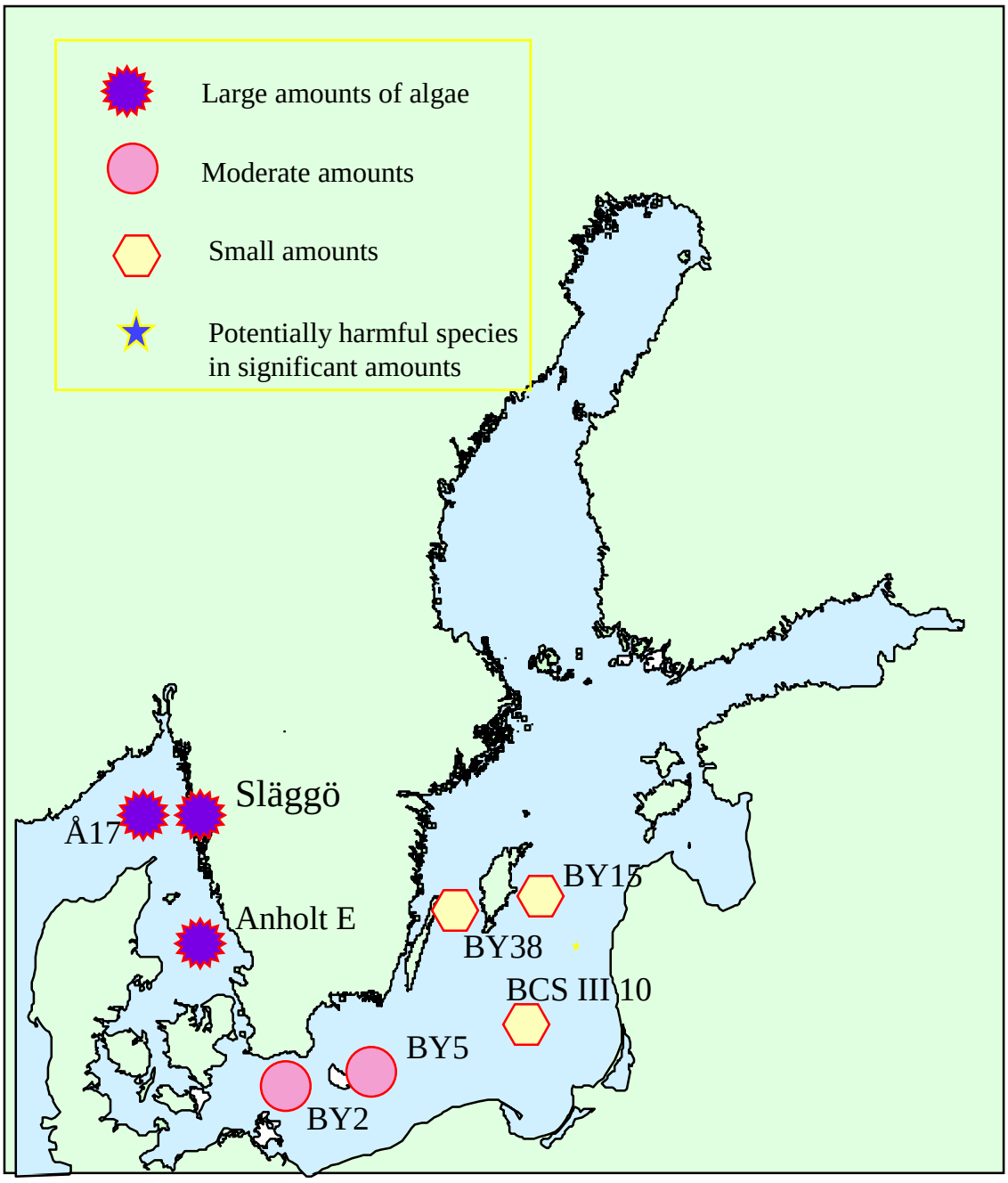
Lars Edler

ALGAL SITUATION IN SWEDISH MARINE WATERS

No 2, 2002, 18 - 23 March

OVERVIEW



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DETAILS

* POTENTIALLY HARMFUL SPECIES

Sampling in the Skagerrak, the Kattegat and the Baltic Sea

SKAGERRAK

Station Å17, 23 MARCH

Spring bloom situation with large amounts of diatom species, a few dinoflagellates and lots of *Phaeocystis. Chaetoceros socialis* and *Thalassiosira nordenskioeldii* were the dominant diatoms with 750 000 and 570 000 cells per liter respectively. Other abundant diatoms were *Skeletonema costatum, Chaetoceros debilis, Rhizosolenia hebetata* and *Chaetoceros curvisetus*. The flagellate *Phaeocystis* sp. was common, whereas the dinoflagellates *Heterocapsa rotundata* and *Lingulodinium polyedrum* were present in small numbers.

Station Släggö, 23 MARCH

Here the spring bloom is in its late stage. Diatoms with *Chaetoceros curvisetus, C. socialis, C. debilis* and *Thalassiosira nordenskioeldii* dominated. *Phaeocystis* was common. The dinoflagellates *Ceratium longipes* and *Dinophysis norvegica** were present in low numbers.

KATTEGAT

Station Anholt E, 22 MARCH

The spring bloom was here also at a late stage. The diatoms *Thalassiosira nordenskioeldii, Skeletonema costatum* and *Chaetoceros socialis* dominated with 280 000, 120 000 and 20 000 cells per liter respectively. The flagellate *Apedinella spinifera* was very common with 170 000 cells per liter and *Phaeocystis* sp. was relatively common. Among dinoflagellates *Heterocapsa rotundata* was the most abundant with about 100 000 cells per liter. Single cells of *Dinophysis acuminata** were observed.

BALTIC SEA

Arkona basin. Station BY2, 22 MARCH

The spring bloom was about to start, which was seen by the development of *Skeletonema costatum* present with about 700 000 cells per liter. The common spring dinoflagellate *Peridiniella catenata* was present with about 15 000 cells per liter. Single filaments or cells of *Aphanizomenon* sp. (”*baltica*”), *Thalassiosira baltica, Melosira arctica* and *Chaetoceros impressus* were found.

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Bornholm basin. Station BY5, 21 MARCH

The initial stage of the spring bloom with about 450 000 cells per liter of *Skeletonema costatum* and small numbers of *Chaetoceros wighamii*. Single filaments or cells of *Aphanizomenon* sp. (”*baltica*”), *Nodularia spumigena, Thalassiosira baltica, Actinocyclus octonarius, Peridiniella catenata* and *Dinophysis acuminata* were found.

Southeast Baltic, Station BCS III 10, 21 MARCH

Also in the initial stage of the spring bloom. Here *Skeletonema costatum* reached 250 000 cells per liter. Single filaments or cells of *Aphanizomenon* sp. (”*baltica*”), *Nodularia spumigena, Thalassiosira baltica, Actinocyclus octonarius* and *Peridiniella catenata* were found.

Eastern Gotland basin, Station BY38, 20 MARCH

At this station the winter situation is ending and the first few cells of the spring bloom are developing. *Skeletonema costatum* is present with 20 000 cells per liter. Single filaments or cells of *Aphanizomenon* sp. (”*baltica*”), *Nodularia spumigena, Snowella* sp., *Thalassiosira baltica, Actinocyclus octonarius* and *Peridiniella catenata* were found.

Western Gotland basin, Station BY38, 18 MARCH

Winter conditions are still prevailing at this station. Very little phytoplankton were observed. Only in the net sample some species turned up, e.g. *Aphanizomenon* sp. (”*baltica*”), *Nodularia spumigena, Snowella* sp., *Skeletonema costatum, Chaetoceros danicus, Actinocyclus octonarius* and *Peridiniella catenata* were found.