

Farewell Pools.

Jan Michael Wilkman, Finland.

The recent hot and dry summers have had a detrimental effect on pools in the Helsinki area. The best pools, W of the city (E1 and E5, pic 1-4) have grown over, with no open water and can be considered lost. They are in the grounds of a nature center and the staff had vague plans to save them, but there was no possibility to use machinery so the plans came to nothing. I suggested a horse for pulling dredges and hooks and offered my help too, but this was apparently not taken seriously. There was a third, interesting small pool too (E6, pic 5), now just a mud pit-I have studied these pools since 1971.

The pools E of the city (GW and GE, pic 6 and 7) have fared better, but the water level is lower, bringing changes in the chemical composition of the water, reflected in the microscopic life. The temperature is higher too, of course. Thus the fine pool (GW) with several *Micrasterias* and *Euastrum* species is now dominated by a *Cosmarium* species. I am unable to determine it as there are hundreds of species and my literature is limited. It is smooth and evenly rounded and slightly smaller than *C. connatum*,

This told, it is absurd that someone laments the demise of a couple of pools when the whole world is going to hell within 100 years or possibly sooner. All nations should unite to fight the climate catastrophe (but too late, I fear) and so this irresponsible small guy starts his own war (“a personal obsession”), upsetting much of the world and killing thousands of people, both civilian and military, including his own men.

Overpopulation, stupidity, greed and testosterone cause most of the problems in the world.



E1 before



E1 in 2022



E5 before



E5 in 2022



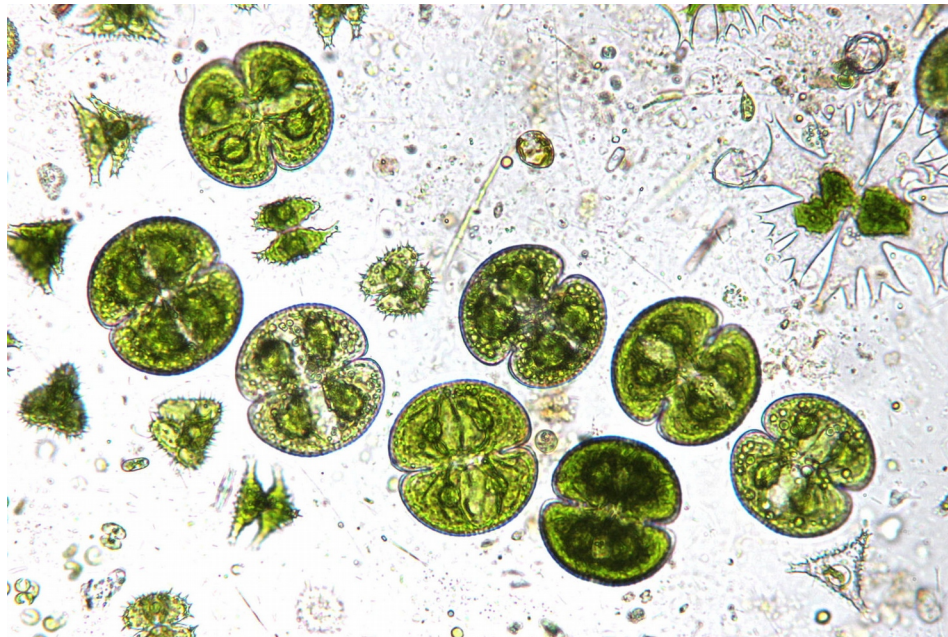
E6 before



GW



GE



Cosmarium sp. of GW.

Comments to the author welcomed, email [jan.m.wilkman AT gmail DOT com](mailto:jan.m.wilkman@gmail.com).

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