OPEN ACCESS

International Journal of
Environmental Research and
Public Health
ISSN 1660-4601
www.mdpi.com/journal/ijerph

Article

Estimating Cyanobacteria Community Dynamics and its Relationship with Environmental Factors

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Received: 31 October 2013; in revised form: 7 January 2014 / Accepted: 8 January 2014 /

Published: 20 January 2014

Abstract: The cyanobacteria community dynamics in two eutrophic freshwater bodies (Tiegang Reservoir and Shiyan Reservoir) was studied with both a traditional microscopic counting method and a PCR-DGGE genotyping method. Results showed that cyanobacterium *Phormidium tenue* was the predominant species; twenty-six cyanobacteria species were identified in water samples collected from the two reservoirs, among which fourteen were identified with the morphological method and sixteen with the PCR-DGGE method. The cyanobacteria community composition analysis showed a seasonal fluctuation from July to December. The cyanobacteria population peaked in August in both reservoirs, with cell abundances of 3.78 × 10⁸ cells L⁻¹ and 1.92 × 10⁸ cells L⁻¹ in the Tiegang and Shiyan reservoirs, respectively. Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) was applied to further investigate the correlation between cyanobacteria community dynamics and environmental factors. The result indicated that the cyanobacteria community dynamics was mostly correlated with pH, temperature and total nitrogen. This study demonstrated that data

obtained from PCR-DGGE combined with a traditional morphological method could reflect cyanobacteria community dynamics and its correlation with environmental factors in eutrophic freshwater bodies.

Keywords: eutrophication; cyanobacteria community composition; PCR-DGGE; freshwater lakes

1. Introduction

Eutrophication of water bodies and subsequent cyanobacteria blooms have become a worldwide environmental problem since last century. Toxins produced by some cyanobacteria species pose a threat to public health [1]. In China, a survey done in 2000 showed that around 37.8 % of its reservoirs were eutrophic, representing 13.4 % of total water supply capacity [2]. The situation is worse in Guangdong Province in South China. As shown in a survey done in 132 Guangdong reservoirs during 2002–2003, two reservoirs were hyper-eutrophic, 12 reservoirs were meso-eutrophic, and most studied reservoirs (111 out of 132) were eutrophic (total phosphorus concentration around 0.01 to 0.05 mg L⁻¹) [3]. The city of Shenzhen is located in south Guangdong, and its tropical weather and fast economic development increase the chances of reservoir eutrophication and cyanobacteria blooms. It is necessary to develop a fast and reliable assessment method to evaluate the phytoplankton community composition and predict the occurrence of cyanobacteria blooms, which is of economic, health and environmental importance to Shenzhen City.

Shiyan Reservoir (longitude 99°8' E, latitude 37°6' N) is located in Shiyan Town, in the Bao'an District of Shenzhen. The mean water depth is 36.0 m and the capacity is 31,200,000 m³. Tiegang Reservoir (longitude 98°8' E, latitude 30°0' N) is located in Xixiang Town of Shenzhen. Its capacity is 68,400,000 m³. The two reservoirs are connected by an open channel. Shiyan Reservoir is the major urban water supply for Bao'an District, providing drinking water for surrounding towns since 1994 [4]. Water quality in both reservoirs was eutrophic [3,5] with visible algal blooms in some areas [4]. However, little study has been done on the phytoplankton community dynamics in these reservoirs.

Currently the traditional morphological observation method using a light microscope is still commonly used to study the population dynamics of phytoplankton communities in eutrophic water bodies. It is time consuming and easily influenced by personal error. Some researchers also use high performance liquid chromatography methods to analyze toxic cyanobacteria blooms, but these methods needs commercial toxin standards, which are expensive and not easily available [6]. PCR- based denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE) is now being used often in cyanobacteria ecology studies. The PCR-DGGE technique was invented to detect site mutations [7] and incorporated a microbial ecology method [8]. In the last decade, this technique has been used widely in environmental microorganism studies [9–12]. Worldwide cyanobacteria bloom events have attracted researchers to apply PCR-DGGE to study cyanobacteria community composition [13–15]. It is crucial to choose the most typical gene clusters for PCR amplification and subsequent DGGE analysis. The most commonly used gene sequences are conservative genes on rRNA, especially on 16S rRNA. As the intergenic transcribed spacer (ITS) region between 16S-23S rRNA gene is non-coding and

variable, the ITS sequence has become more commonly used in this area [16–18]. In this study, we applied both an ITS-based PCR-DGGE method and the traditional morphological method to investigate the cyanobacteria communities in the Tiegang and Shiyan reservoirs of Shenzhen. We also used Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) to study the relationship between cyanobacteria community dynamics and environmental factors.

2. Experimental Section

2.1. Sample Collection and Determination of Water Quality

In 2007, surface water samples were collected with a water sampler from the center and outlet of the Shiyan and Tiegang reservoirs at the beginning of each month. Center and outlet samples were combined to perform physical-chemical analysis. Transparency was measured with a Secchi disk. Dissolved oxygen (DO), pH, and temperature were measured in the field with a YSI ProPlus multiparmameter (YSI Inc., Yellow Springs, OH, USA). Chemical parameters including permanganate index (COD_{Mn}), total nitrogen (TN), ammonia (NH₄⁺-N) and total phosphorus (TP) were determined in the laboratory according to the National Environmental Quality Standards for Surface Water (GB3838-2002) [19]. Chlorophyll *a* concentration was measured using an ethanol extraction method modified from Lorenzen [20].

Phytoplankton samples were collected at the above-mentioned sampling sites and put into 1 L sample bottles. Lugol's solution (15 mL) was added to each bottle, and set overnight. Supernatant was carefully removed, and the final concentrated sample volume was 50 mL. Each sample was vortexed and one drop of sample was placed on a haemocytometer to be examined under an Olympus-BX51 compound microscope (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) with 400× magnification. For each sample, five fields in the haemocytometer were counted and the mean value was used to calculate the biomass. For colonies or filaments, only the parts within the fields were counted. The phytoplankton biomass was expressed as cell numbers per liter. For qualitative examination, phytoplankton net #25 (0.064-mm-diameter) tow samples fixed with formaldehyde solution (final concentration 5%) were put in counting chamber to identify genus or species of bacterium under inverted microscope (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) [21].

2.2. DNA Extraction and PCR-DGGE Analysis

Water samples collected from Shiyan and Tiegang reservoirs during July and December 2007 were used for the ITS based PCR-DGGE analysis. Samples were first filtered through 0.45 µm filter paper and the filters were then used for DNA extraction with the Wizard Genomic DNA Purification Kit (Promega, Madison, WI, USA). PCR primers used for this study were CSIF/373R [22] that designed for ITS sequence of cyanobacteria genome. The sequences of primers were GC-CSIF (5'-G(T/C)C ACG CCC GAA GTC (G/A)TT AC-3') and 373R(5'-CTA ACC ACC TGA GCT AAT-3') with a 40 bp hairpin sequence on the 5' (5'-CGC CCG CCC CCC GCG CCC GCG CCC GCC CCC CCG CCC CC3'), size of the amplification sequence is around 250 bp.

PCR reactions were performed in microcentrifuge tube with total volume of 50 μ L containing 8 μ L of 10× buffer (with MgCl₂), 1 μ L each of reverse and forward primers, 8 μ L of dNTP, 0.5 μ L of *Taq*

DNA polymerase, $28.5~\mu L$ of double distilled water, $5~\mu L$ of BSA, and $1\mu L$ of template DNA. Touchdown PCR amplification performed with 1 cycle of pre-denaturation at 94 °C for 5 min, 23 cycles of touchdown (94 °C for 40 s, 58-55 °C for 30 s with decreasing annealing temperature by 1 °C each consecutive cycle, 72 °C for 30 s), 26 cycles of amplification (94 °C for 40 s, 55 °C for 30 s and 72 °C for 30 s) and a final extension at 72 °C for 10 min. It was then incubate at 12 °C for 30 min.

DGGE was performed following the protocol provided in the manual for Bio-Rad DCode Universal Mutation Detection System (Bio-Rad Laboratories, Hercules, CA, USA). Denaturing gradient gel was 8% (wt/vol) polyacrylamide gels in 1× TAE buffer (20 mM Tris-acetate (pH 7.4), 10 mM acetate, 0.5 mM disodium EDTA). The gradient range was 25–45%. Electrophoresis was carried out at 50 V for 30 min and 120 V for 7 h. Gel was stained for 1 h with 3× GelRed TM Nucleic Acid Gel Stain (containing 0.1 M NaCl and 30 μL GelRed TM Nucleic Acid Gel Stain, 10,000× in water per100 mL H₂O). Bands on gel were captured using gel image system. A band was considered to be a band when it provided a signal to noise ratio of over 3:1. After image capture, the gel plug containing a PCR product was removed with 10 µL pipette tips and placed in 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube. The gel plug was then submerged in 50 µL of deionized water and sat at 4 °C overnight. Another DGGE was performed using excised band and original sample to verify the band. The next day, the solution was diluted 100× and 1 µL of the diluted extract was used for second PCR amplification (30 cycles, Ta = 57 °C). The PCR product was directly sequenced. When direct sequencing failed, sequencing was done after cloning with pUC57 T-vector system according to the manufacturer's instructions (Takara, Dalian, China). Again, another DGGE was performed to verify the clone product by running the clone product with the original sample on one gel. The sequences were compared with GenBank database with BLAST search. Species was assigned based on the top BLAST hit. DGGE images were analyzed using software Quantity One (Bio-Rad). After recognition of each band, Un-weighted Pair Group Method with Arithmetic Averages (UPGMA) analysis was performed. Bands were also quantified and entered in Excel and used with physical-chemical indices in Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA) using CANOCO (version 4.5), as described in previously published reports [23,24].

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Eutrophication Levels of Two Reservoirs

Tiegang Reservoir and Shiyan Reservoir are both important drinking water source for Shenzhen. The rapid economic development and continuous population growth have accelerated eutrophication in the two reservoirs during the last five years. In this study, nine water quality indices (TN, DO, NH₄⁺-N, TP, COD_{Mn}, pH, temperature, transparency and chlorophyll *a*) of both reservoirs were monitored monthly in 2007 and the mean values were shown in Table 1.

Water Quality Parameters	Tiegang Reservoir	Shiyan Reservoir
Water temperature ($^{\circ}$ C)	25.4 (5.56)	24.9 (5.52)
DO (mg L ⁻¹)	8.38 (1.26)	8.16 (1.42)
Chlorophyll a (µg L ⁻¹)	45.3 (31.2)	53.0 (26.9)
$COD_{Mn} (mg L^{-1})$	2.75 (0.745)	3.04 (0.674)
Ammonia (mg L ⁻¹)	0.147 (0.087)	0.566 (0.359)
Total nitrogen (mg L ⁻¹)	0.934 (0.242)	1.508 (0.387)
Total phosphorus (mg L ⁻¹)	0.034 (0.009)	0.043 (0.004)
pН	8.237 (0.566)	7.871 (0.657)
Transparency (cm)	64 8 (5 59)	58 3 (6 68)

Table 1. Mean value of water quality parameters in Tiegang and Shiyan Reservoirs in 2007 (standard deviations in parentheses).

3.2. Phytoplankton and Cyanobacteria Community Structure and Dynamics in Two Reservoirs

Cyanobacteria, green algae (*Scenedesmus* sp. and *Cosmarium* sp.) and diatoms (*Synedra* spp, *Melosira* spp.) were the main phytoplankton groups in the tested water samples. Cyanobacteria were the most dominant phytoplankton in Tiegang Reservoir and were also abundant in Shiyan Reservoir, except for the winter, during which diatoms were dominant. The cyanobacterium *Phormidium tenue* was found consistently in all of the water samples, and other common cyanobacterial species including *Raphidiopsis sinensia* and species belonging to *Chroococcales* sp. and *Merismopedia* sp. Cyanobacteria abundance varied monthly. Winter showed the lowest cell density, with 1.40×10^7 cells L⁻¹ in December for Tiegang and 2.50×10^7 cells L⁻¹ for Shiyan (Figure 1). The highest phytoplankton cell density appeared in August where 2.48×10^9 cells L⁻¹ and 1.39×10^9 cells L⁻¹ were found in samples collected from Tiegang and Shiyan, respectively. For the rest of the year, the cyanobacteria abundance was around 10^8 cells L⁻¹ in both reservoirs. As the cyanobacteria abundance did not vary much from January to June (Figure 1), we only used samples from July to December to analyze the cyanobacteria abundance and population composition with both the traditional microscopic counting method and a PCR-DGGE genotyping method. Results from microscopic investigation are listed in Table 2.

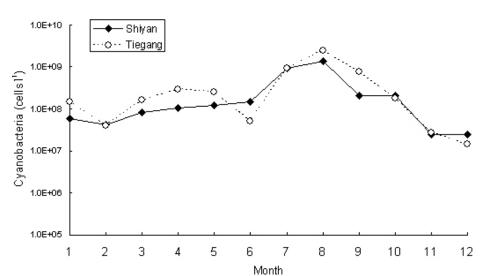


Figure 1. The annual changes of cyanobacteria abundance in Tiegang and Shiyan Reservoir.

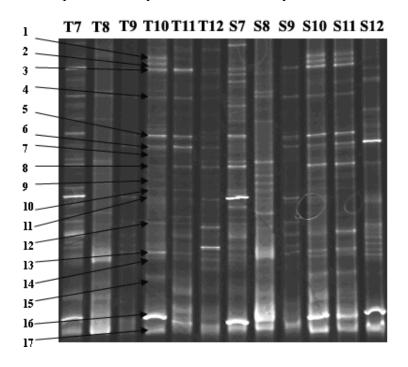
Table 2. Monthly abundance of main cyanobacteria species in Tiegang and Shiyan Reservoirs from July to December, 2007.

Cyanobacteria species	T7	Т8	Т9	T10	T11	T12	S7	S8	S9	S10	S11	S12
Phormidium tenue	1.2×10^{8}	4.8×10^{8}	2.1×10^{8}	5.4× 10 ⁷	1.2×10^{7}	9.0×10^{6}	3.0×10^{7}	1.2×10^{8}	2.7×10^{7}	8.4×10^{7}	6.0×10^{6}	3.0×10^{6}
Raphidiopsis sinensia	7.5×10^{7}	5.3×10^{8}	4.4×10^{8}	8.3×10^{7}	N	5.0×10^{6}	2.0×10^{8}	2.8×10^{8}	1.1×10^{8}	5.0×10^{7}	2.5×10^{6}	1.0×10^{7}
Microcystis aeruginosa	N	N	3.8×10^{7}		N	N	2.5×10^{7}	N	2.0×10^{7}	5.0×10^{6}	N	N
Chroococcus giganteus	N	N	2.5×10^{7}	N	N	N	N	N	3.8×10^{7}	N	N	N
Chroococcus westii	N	1.3×10^{8}	N	N	N	N	N	6.5×10^{7}	N	N	N	8.0×10^{6}
Chroococcus limneticus	N	N	N	1.6×10^{7}	N	N	N	N	N	3.8×10^{7}	N	N
Cylindrospermum sp.	4.3×10^{8}	1.3×10^{9}	N	N	N	N	4.5×10^{8}	6.8×10^{8}	N	N	N	N
Spirunila major	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

T1–T6: Samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir; S1–S6: Samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir; N means not detectable, cell numbers <5.0 \times 10⁵cells L⁻¹.

Figure 2 shows PCR-DGGE results of water samples collected from Tiegang and Shiyan Reservoirs from July to December (more details are shown in Figure A1 and Tables A1 and A2 in Appendix). As summarized in Table 3 (e-value of each comparison was under 0.001), 16 cyanobacteria genotypes corresponding to 16 species were identified in each reservoir, including *Microcystis*, *Phormidium*, *Synechocystis*, *Cylindrospermopsis*, *Spirulina*, *Arthrospira*, *Raphidiopsis*, *Lynghya* and *Anabeana*. For these 16 species, each species had one specific band, except for *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* (bands 11 and 13) (Table 3). The brightness of the band was used as an indicator of cyanobacteria density. For example, band 16 in Figure 2 was very bright, and the corresponding *Phormidium* sp. was also shown to be dominant genera under microscope investigation (Table 2). However, it should be noted that the PCR step could favor the amplification of particular DNA segments, which may cause an underestimation of certain strains of bacteria. In the current study, the comparison of dominant species between PCR-DGGE and microscopic analyses seemed to be compatible.

Figure 2. The PCR-DGGE fingerprint map of water samples from July to December 2007 in Tiegang and Shiyan Reservoir. T7-T12: samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir; S7-S12: samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir.



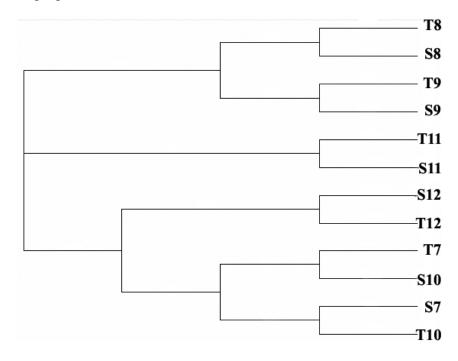
Band numbers of DGGE products were compared among samples using Quantity One (Bio-Rad). T10 was designated as the standard for relative quantification. Bands at the same position were considered as the same species. The relative biomass was represented by the DNA amounts from the bands. The Cs (Dice coefficient) correlation between relative biomass of each band ranged from 38.1% (T8 and S12) to 78.8% (T11 and S11), which means cyanobacteria community in December of Shiyan and August of Tiegang were mostly different, while the two reservoirs had similar cyanobacteria communities in November. Based on similarity analysis, results were converted into UPGMA diagram (Figure 3) using Quantity One. The tree had three major clades. Clade I consisted of cyanobacteria species in August and September (Lanes T8, S8, T9 and S9). Clade II consisted of cyanobacteria species in November (Lanes T11, S11). Clade III consisted of samples collected in December (Lanes

T12, S12), October and July (Lanes T7, S10, S7, and T10). Overall, the cyanobacteria community structure was very similar between the two reservoirs in the same month while it showed seasonal changes in the same reservoir.

DGGE Band	Similarity	Classet Matching Ouganism	Base Pairs	Similarity
No.	Number	Closest Matching Organism	Compared	(%)
1	AF363949.1	Microcoleus steenstrupii	171	81
2	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	139	97
3	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
4	AM398947.1	Phormidium sp.	222	97
5	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
6	AJ605201.1	Microcystis sp.	244	98
7	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
8	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
9	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140	209	91
10	AM398973.1	Phormidium sp	211	96
11	AM502073.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	346	98
12	DQ786166.1	Leptolyngbya sp. LLi18	145	94
13	AJ582284.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	379	94
14	BA000022.2	Synechocystis sp	158	89
15	X75045.1	Spirulina sp	130	92
16	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG 80.79	135	98
17	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140 16S	209	91

Table 3. The sequencing result of bands in Figure 2.

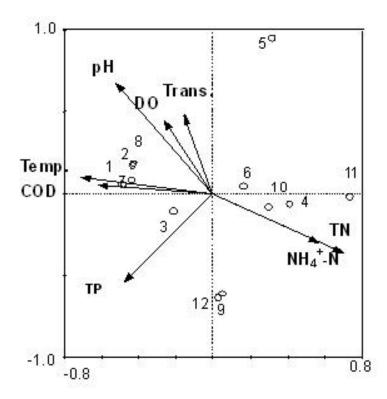
Figure 3. The cyanobacteria community structure system tree map of Tiegang and Shiyan reservoir water samples from July to December in 2007. T7–T12: Samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir; S7–S12: Samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir. The purpose of the tree is to show the clades.



3.3. Relationship between Cyanobacteria Community Dynamics and Environment Factors

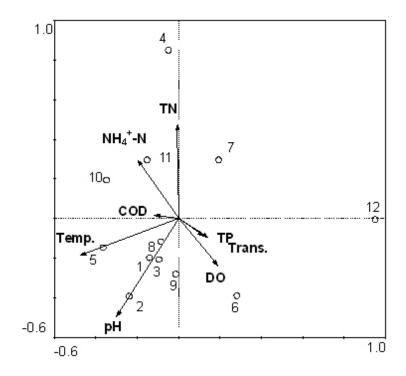
The cell number of each cyanobacteria species in water samples of two reservoirs was counted under a microscope. These numbers were analyzed for correlations with environmental factors using CCA. Results are shown in Figure 4. The cyanobacteria community structure correlated mainly with temperature, pH, COD, NH₄⁺-N and TN, with coefficients around 0.7.

Figure 4. Canonical correspondence analysis (CCA) ordination diagram of the cyanobacteria community dynamics data (from traditional morphological method) in relation to the environmental variables. 1–6: samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir: 7–12: samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir.



The number of bands and their relative quantities from PCR-DGGE results were also analyzed for correlation with environmental factors using CCA. Results are shown in Figure 5. The cyanobacteria community dynamics in the two reservoirs were mainly correlated with temperature, pH, and TN (R > 0.5). Results from both methods indicated that temperature, pH, and TN are important factors affecting cyanobacteria community structure, which is consistent with other reports that those are the main parameters for cyanobacterial growth [25,26]. This result is also in line with previous data from other reservoirs [27]. The increase in *Microcystic aeruginosa* and *Phormidium tenue* is an important indication of eutrophication [28]. It is necessary to monitor cyanobacteria community dynamics of reservoirs, and study its relationship with the environmental factors for the estimation and evaluation of eutrophication level of water bodies. Either or both of the methods employed in this study can serve as a useful environmental monitoring tool, and the correlation between cyanobacteria community and environmental factors can be used to predict and prevent cyanobacteria bloom.

Figure 5. CCA ordination diagram of the cyanobacteria community dynamics data (from PCR-DGGE approach) in relation to the environmental variables. 1–6: samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir: 7–12: samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir.



3.4. Comparison between Morphological Identification and PCR-Dgge Identification to Determine Cyanobacteria Community of Two Reservoirs

This study employed both microscopic observation and PCR-DGGE analysis to identify cyanobacteria species in water bodies and compared the results. In this particular study, it was found that the number of cyanobacteria species observed in PCR-DGGE was much larger than the number of species identified by microscopy. In October 2007, for example, five species were identified by the microscopic method in Tiegang Reservoir (Table 2, T10); while sixteen species were identified by PCR-DGGE analysis in the same sample (Figure 2, T10). The cyanobacteria community of two reservoirs depicted in Figure 2 (data from PCR-DGGE analysis) also showed better diversity than in Table 2 (data from microscopic observation) in other months of 2007. When comparing Tables 2 and 3, we can see the main cyanobacteria species identified were also different. Band 5 in Table 2, for example, was identifies as Anabaena sp. and detected in most samples (Figure 2), while no Anabaena was found through microscopic method (Table 2). Chroococcus sp., on the other hand, was found in many samples with high density in Table 2, but no band in PCR-DGGE was identified as Chroococcus sp. Both methods have their disadvantage and may cause false results. Microscopic analysis requires professional experience and skills for morphological identification, and it is prone to human error. For example, Synechococcus spp. is a very small unicelluar genera and the biomass could probably be overestimated under microscope. For PCR-DGGE, the primer set (CSIF/373R) used in this study was good for broadly scan dominated cyanobacteria isolates, but different cyanobacteria isolates might show as a same band on the gel [22]. However, the most dominated cyanobacteria genera were consistently identified as *Phormidium* sp. through both methods, which indicated that PCR-DGGE

could objectively reflect main cyanobacteria community dynamics compared with morphological identification. Pyrosequencing is another tool to perform similar analysis. With the steady decrease of the cost, this technique may be an alternative or complementary tool for environmental analysis, such as the one described here. It will certainly improve the reliability of the data.

3.4. Reliability of CCA Based on PCR-DGGE Data

In most microbiology studies, it is common to use relative quantity data of PCR-DGGE bands to perform CCA [24,29,30]. However, it is not always possible to confirm the correlation between the relative quantity of DNA bands with the exact number of bacteria because large number of bacteria exists in water samples and not all of them could be isolated and identified with morphological methods. It is relatively easier to quantify and identify cyanobacteria species with morphological methods, so in this study we used data from both PCR-DGGE analysis and a morphological method to perform CCA in relation to environmental factors. This provides a good chance to check the reliability of CCA based on PCR-DGGE data of cyanobacteria. Results suggested that the cyanobacteria community dynamics determined by traditional morphological method showed better correlation coefficients with temperature, pH, TN and other environmental factors, such as COD and NH₄⁺-N (Figure 4). Results of CCA from PCR-DGGE data was largely in accordance with Figure 4 in terms of the correlation with temperature and TN. However, there were also obvious differences when comparing Figure 4 with Figure 5. For example, CCA results from PCR-DGGE could not identify the close correlation between cyanobacteria community and COD and NH₄⁺-N. The lower correlation coefficient from PCR-DGGE data might be due to the DNA band intensity cannot accurately reflect the quantity of the relevant species. Moreover, the sample distribution in the CCA analysis was also different (Figures 4 and 5). In general, the relative quantification of cyanobacteria with PCR-DGGE method using CSIF/373R primers can be applied in CCA as a reference tool to seek the correlation with environmental factors of water bodies in reservoir. However, results need be calibrated and verified by traditional morphological methods.

4. Conclusions

We investigated the cyanobacteria community composition in eutrophic water samples with both the PCR-DGGE method and the traditional microscopic examination method. Both methods provided useful information and most results were comparable. Both reservoirs were dominated with cyanobacteria during the summer months, with temperature, precipitation, TN and pH as the main factors correlated with cyanobacteria abundance. As a tool to study cyanobacteria communities, PCR-DGGE does have its drawbacks, for example, no primers could amplify specific DNA bands from all cyanobacterial species, and cyanobacteria DNA sequences in GenBank are limited. Currently, PCR-DGGE analysis can be used as a semi-quantitative tool to identify algal species, and with the combination of traditional morphological methods, it could effectively monitor community dynamics of cyanobacteria in reservoirs.

Acknowledgments

This study was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 41176106, 31200092, 31170491), Guangdong Enterprise Academician Workstation (Grant No. 2011A090700015) and Shenzhen Grant Plan for Science and Technology to Zhangli Hu.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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Appendix

Figure A1. Larger PCR-DGGE fingerprint map for sequencing. Lanes 1-6: samples from July to December in Tiegang Reservoir; Lanes 7-12: samples from July to December in Shiyan Reservoir.

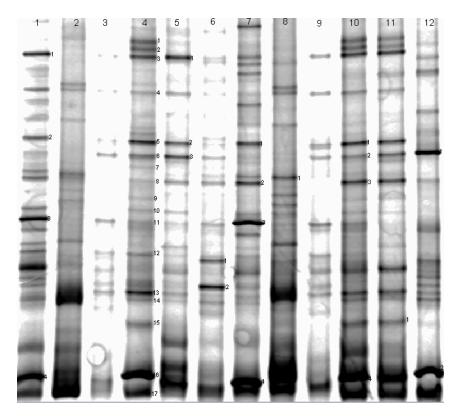


Table A1. List of sequencing results from DGGE bands on Figure A1.

DGGE band no.	similarity number	closest matching organism	base pairs compared	similarity(%)
1-1	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
1-2	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG 80.79	135	98
2-1	BA000022.2	Synechocystis sp.	158	89
4-1	AF363949.1	Microcoleus steenstrupii	171	81
4-2	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	139	97
4-3	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
4-4	AM398947.1	Phormidium sp.	222	97
4-5	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
4-6	AJ605201.1	Microcystis sp.	244	98
4-7	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
4-8	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
4-9	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140	209	91

Table A1. Cont.

DGGE band no.	similarity number	closest matching organism	base pairs compared	similarity(%)
4-10	AM398973.1	Phormidium sp.	211	96
4-11	AM502073.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	346	98
4-12	DQ786166.1	<i>Leptolyngbya</i> sp. LLi18	145	94
4-13	AJ582284.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	379	94
4-14	BA000022.2	Synechocystis sp.	158	89
4-15	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
4-16	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG 80.79	135	98
4-17	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140 16S	209	91
5-1	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
5-2	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
5-3	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
6-1	AY672727.1	Microcystis sp.	394	98
6-2	AJ582275.1	Raphidiopsis sp.	368	96
7-1	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
7-2	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
7-3	AM502073.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	220	98
7-4	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum	135	98
8-1	EF442201.1	Synechococcus sp.	89.8	92
10-1	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
10-2	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
10-3	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
10-4	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum	135	98
11-1	EF429298.1	Leptolyngbya badia	130	98
12-1	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
12-2	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG	135	98

Table A2. List of DNA sequences of bands in Table A1.

DGGE Band No.	Similarity Number	Closest Matching Organism	Base Pairs Compared	Similarity (%)
1-1	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
CCCGTTACGCT	GCGACGAATGC	CGTGGCTAGATGACAGGGGTGAG	TCGTAACAAGGT	CAGCCGTACC
GGAAGGTGTG	GCTGGATCACCT	TCCTTTAAGGGAGACCGATGACA	GATAGTGTACGA	ATGAATGTA
AGCTATCAGTT	GGTCATCTCAA	GGTCGAGGGTTTCGAGTATGGTA	ATTCTTCAGGCTA	GGGTCTAGG
GGCTATTAGCT	CAGGTGGTTAG	A		
1-2	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG 80.79	135	98

TTCCCTCAGGGGGGGGGGCGACGCAGGTCTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGTCGTAACAAGGTAGCCGTACCGGAAGGTGTGGCTGGATCACCTCCTTTAAGGGAGACCGATGACGGATAGTTTACGAATAGATGTAAGGTATCAGTTGGTCATCTCGAGGTCGAGGGTTGGGAGTATGGTATTCTTCAGGCTAGGGTCTAGGGGCTATTAGCTAGGTGGTTAGA

Table A2. Cont.

DGGE Band No.	Similarity Number	Closest Matching Organism	Base Pairs Compared	Similarity (%)
2-1	BA000022.2	Synechocystis sp.	158	89
CGGATAGGAAGC	GAAGAGCTAACGTAGG	ACTGATGACTGGGGT	GAGTCGTAACAAGGT.	AGCCGTA
CCGGAAGGTGTG	GCTGGATCACCTCCTT	TTAGGGAGACCTAAT	TCCACTTAGAAATGTTA	AAGGAAAC
TACCATAACAAC	CTAAATTGGTCTAACC	TAGGTCGGTCGCAGA	ACTTGAAGTAAGTCTTT	CCAAACTA
TGATTTGGTTCGA	ATAAGGGCTATTAACTO	CAGGTGGTTAGA		
4-2	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	139	97
TTTTTGGGGGAG	GCGCGACGCACGCTGA	TGACTGGGGTGAGT	CGTAACAAGGTAGCCG	TACCGGA
AGGTGTGGCTGG	ATCACCTCCTTTTAGG	GAGACCCAATCCGTA	GAAGTTATGAGTTATC	GAGTTTTG
AATGTTGAGTTT	AAGACTTGTGACCTAA	ATCTAAACATTACAA	CTTCTATGAGATTCAA	TCCCGAG
GTCGTACCGAGG	TTGTGAACTTTCAAGC	TAAGTCAGGTTTGTA	AATGGGCTATTAGCTC	CAGGTGGT
TAGA				
4-3	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
CCCGTTACGCTG	CGACGAATGCGTGGCT	AGATGACAGGGGTG	AGTCGTAACAAGGTAC	GCCGTACC
GGAAGGTGTGGC	TGGATCACCTCCTTTA	AGGGAGACCGATGA	CAGATAGTGTACGAAT	GAATGTA
AGCTATCAGTTG	GTCATCTCAAGGTCGA	GGGTTTCGAGTATGG	TATTCTTCAGGCTAGG	GTCTAGG
GGCTATTAGCTC	AGGTGGTTAGA			
4-4	AM398947.1	Phormidium sp.	222	97
TTCCCTCAGGGG	GGGGTGCGACGCAGGT	CTGATGACTGGGGT	GAAGTCGTAACAAGGT	AGCCGTA
CCGGAAGGTGTG	GCTGGATCACCTCCTT	TAAGGGAGACCGATG	GACGGATAGTTTACGA	ATAGATG
TAAGGTATCAGT	TGGTCATCTCGAGGTC	GAGGGTTGGGAGTAT	TGGTATTCTTCAGGCTA	AGGGTCTA
GGGGCTATTAGC	TAGGTGGTTAGA			
4-5	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
TTTTTGGGGGAG	GCGCGACGCACGCTGA	TGACTGGGGTGAGT	CGTAACAAGGTAGCCG	TACCGGA
AGGTGTGGCTGG	ATCACCTCCTTTTAGG	GAGACCCAATCCGTA	GAAGTTATGAGTTATO	GAGTTTTG
	AAGACTTGTGACCTAA			
	TTGTGAACTTTCAAGC	TAAGTCAGGTTTGTA	AATGGGCTATTAGCTC	CAGGTGGT
TAGA				
4-6	AJ605201.1		244	98
	GGGAGCTAGTAGGAC			
	GATCACCTCCTTTTAGG			
	AATGGTCTACTCTAGG		TTGTGAAGTCTTTCAA.	ACTAATAT
	CTATTAGCTATGTGGTT			
4-7	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
	GAGAGCTAGCATGACT			
	TGGATCACCTCCTTTC			
	AGGATTGGTCAACCTAA			
	AGAAGAAGGGAAACGA	AGGGCTATTAGCTAA	GGTGGTTAGAGACATT	ACCTCAG
GTGGTTAGA				
4-8	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
	AGGTCTTTTATGACCC			
	TTCTTGGTTTCGACTAC			
	GCCACACCTTCCGGTA			CTAGCCC
TGCCTTAGGCAT	CCCCTCCTTGCGGTTC	GAGGTAACGACTTCG	GGCGTGACA	

Table A2. Cont.

DGGE Band No.	Similarity Number	Closest Matching Organism	Base Pairs	Similarity (%)
4-9	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140	Compared 209	91
-	*	GCTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCG		-
		.CAGGGAGACACAACTGATTT		
		GGTCGATCGGTACCTCAGATG		
		CCTCAGTTCCTAAACTTCTGTC		
	CAAAGCATCTGCCAC FTAGCTCAGGTGGTT		TAGGTCACCC	CICCOAGCCC
			211	96
4-10	AM398973.1	<i>Phormidium</i> sp. GCTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCG		
		AAGGGAGACCGATGACAGATA		
		AGGGTTTCGAGTATGGTATTC'	TTCAGGCTAG	GGICIAGGGG
CTATTAGCTAC		C 1: 1 : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	246	0.0
4-11	AM502073.1	-)		98
		AGTAGAGACTAGACGTGAGTC		
		TTAGGGAGACCTACCCATTGA		
		TAGGTCGATGACGTGAGATTC		
		GTGGTTAGAACACACCATGGG		
		AACAAAGATCTACCAAACTTT		
		CAAAAATTTCCCCAAAAAAAC		
		GGGACAAAAATTGGGGGGGC		
		CCGGAAAACTCTTAATTCTGTA		
	GGCTACCATATCGAG	AGAACTCTCCGCATGCGGAG	CICICICIACA	GTGCGCGGGG
GTT				
4-12		Leptolyngbya sp. LLi18	145	94
		GACTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGT		
		TTCAGGGAGACCTTACCCACC		
		CTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGT		
	TAAGAAGAAGGGAAA	ACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGT	GGTTAGAGAC	ATTACCTCAG
GTGGTTAGA				
4-13	AJ582284.1	Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii	379	94
		GTGACTGGGGTGAGTCGTAAC		
		GGAGACCTACCCATTGAGGAA		
		TCGGTGACGTGAGATTGTGA		
		GTGGTTAGAAGCACCCCGGG		
		AAGTGGTAAGAACAGCTGGGC		
		AATTTCTTTGAGAACCACCGAC		
		ATGGTGGCCGGCCCCCAAAT		
		ATTACTAATACGACATTCATC	CACCACGGTT	TTATTTAGTGG
	CGGAGAGATGGCT			
4-14	BA000022.2	Synechocystis sp.	158	89
		AGGACTGATGACTGGGGTGAC		
		CTTTTAGGGAGACCTAATCCA		
		ACCTAGGTCGGTCGCAGACTT	GAAGTAAGT	CTTTCAAACTA
TGATTTGGTTC	CGATAAGGGCTATTA	ACTCAGGTGGTTAGA		

Table A2. Cont.

DGGE Band No.	Similarity Number	Closest Matching Organism	Base Pairs Compared	Similarity (%)
4-15	X75045.1	Spirulina sp.	130	92
CCCGTTACGCTG	GCGACGAATGCGTC	GCTAGATGACAGGGGTGAGT	CGTAACAAG	GTAGCCGTACC
GGAAGGTGTGG	CTGGATCACCTCCT	TTAAGGGAGACCGATGACAG	ATAGTGTAC	GAATGAATGTA
AGCTATCAGTTC	GTCATCTCAAGGT	CGAGGGTTTCGAGTATGGTAT	TCTTCAGGCT	TAGGGTCTAGG
GGCTATTAGCTC	CAGGTGGTTAGA			
4-16	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum SAG 80.79	9 135	98
TTCCCTCAGGGG		AGGTCTGATGACTGGGGTGAA		AGGTAGCCGTA
CCGGAAGGTGTG	GGCTGGATCACCTC	CCTTTAAGGGAGACCGATGAC	GGATAGTTTA	CGAATAGATG
TAAGGTATCAGT	TTGGTCATCTCGAG	GTCGAGGGTTGGGAGTATGGT	CATTCTTCAG	GCTAGGGTCTA
GGGGCTATTAGG	CTAGGTGGTTAGA			
4-17	DQ351315.1	Synechococcus sp. UW140 16S	209	91
	•	GCTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCG		AGCCGTACCGG
AAGGTGCGGCTG	GGATCACCTCCTAA	CAGGGAGACACAACTGATTT	TGATGTTTGG	TTCATTTTGAA
		GGTCGATCGGTACCTCAGATG		
		CCTCAGTTCCTAAACTTCTGTC		
	AGCTCAGGTGGTT			
5-1	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
-		CCCCAGAACCTAGTTTGAAAG		-
		CTACTATTTTTTCGTCTTATACO		
		GTACGGCTACCTTGTTACGAC		
		GTTGAGGTAACGACTTCGGGC		grenemiece
5-2		Anabaena sp.	150	98
		CTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCGTA		
		AGGGAGACCCAATCCGTAGAA		
		TAAATCTAAACATTACAACTT		
		AGCTAAGTCAGGTTTGTAAAT		
TAGA	orroranci i i ch	AGCTANGTERIOGTTTGTAMIT		3616/1001001
5-3	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
		GACTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGT		
		TTCAGGGAGACCTTACCCACC		
		CTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGT		
		ACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGT		
GTGGTTAGA	AUAAUAAUUUAAA	REGAGGGETATTAGETAAGGT	JUTTAUAUA	CATTACCTCAG
6-1	AY672727.1	Microcystis sp.	394	98
0 1		<i>Microcysus</i> sp. TACTAGTGATGGGGTGCAGTC		
		TAAAGGGAGACCTAATTCAG(
		AGGTCGGAGCGAGGCAAAAT		
		GAACAAGGGCTATTAGCTCAG GATTACCGCGGGTGTATGGGTT		
		AGACTGAATGTAATTACTTGC		
		TTTGTCCTAAAACGAGCTCCA		
		GTCCACTCTCATCCATGATGAA		
	TIAATGCATCAAAA	TACTCATGATTCTCTGGTTTCT	CGGTACCAC	CIGGIACCICI
CGCACCCC				

ATCTGGGCCATTAGCTCAGGTGGTTAGA

Table A2. Cont.

DGGE Band No.	Similarity Number	Closest Matching	Base Pairs	Similarity (%)
DGGE Danu No.	Similarity Number	Organism	Compared	Similarity (76)
6-2	AJ582275.1	Raphidiopsis sp.	368	96
CCCATCAGTGAG	CTATGTAGGACTGGT	GACTGGGGTGAGTCGT	AACAAGGTAGO	CCGTACCGGAAG
GTGTGGCTGGAT	CACCTCCTTTTAGGG	AGACCTACCCATTGAGO	GAATCGAAAGC	GGAGAGCGAAT
AGAGAATCAAAT	GGTCTACTCTAGGTC	GGTGACGTGAGATTGT	GAAGTCTTTCA	AACTAATATTTG
GTTCGCGAGAGG	GCTATTAGCTAGGGT	GGTTAGAAGCACCCCC	GGGGGATAGC	CAACCACTGCGG
GCTTAAACCCTG	GGGAAAAAACCAAAG	GTGGTAAGAACAGCTGG	GGGCAAAAA	AATAATCAAGAC
TCCGAATTTCCTC	GTGTTCCCTCAAAAA	TTTCTTTGAGAACCACC	GACCCCCCTGT	ATATCTGACTGC
CGCTCTTTGCCGA	ATCTTTTTTTAAAAT	GGTGGCCGGCCCCCA	AATGATGTGTT	GTTGGCGCCCCC
CCCCTCTTACTTC	GCGTTCGAGAGAAT	ΓΑCTAATACGACATTCA	TCCACCACGGT	TTTTATTTAGTGG
GGGGCGCGAACC	GGAGAGATGGCT			
7-1	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
TTTTTGGGGGAG	GCGCGACGCACGCTG	ATGACTGGGGTGAGTC	GTAACAAGGTA	AGCCGTACCGGA
AGGTGTGGCTGG	ATCACCTCCTTTTAGG	GGAGACCCAATCCGTAG	GAAGTTATGAG	TTATGAGTTTTG
AATGTTGAGTTT	AAGACTTGTGACCTA	AATCTAAACATTACAAC	CTTCTATGAGA	ΓΤCAATCCCGAG
GTCGTACCGAGG	TTGTGAACTTTCAAG	CTAAGTCAGGTTTGTAA	ATGGGCTATT	AGCTCAGGTGGT
TAGA				
7-2	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
AGGATCCGAATC		CCAGAACCTAGTTTGAA	AAGCCACATAC	CTCGTTCCGACC
		.CTATTTTTCGTCTTAT.		
GGAGGTGATCCA	GCCACACCTTCCGGT	ACGGCTACCTTGTTACC	GACTTCACCCC	AGTCACTAGCCC
TGCCTTAGGCAT	CCCCTCCTTGCGGTT	GAGGTAACGACTTCGG	GCGTGACA	
7-3		Cylindrospermopsis racibors		98
		ΓAGAGACTAGACGTGA		
		AGGGAGACCTACCCATT		
		GGTCGATGACGTGAGA		
		GGTTAGAACACACCATO		
		CAAAGATCTACCAAACT		
		AAAATTTCCCCAAAAA		
		GACAAAAATTGGGGGG		
		GGAAAACTCTTAATTCT		
		GAACTCTCCGCATGCGG.		
GTT				
7-4	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum	135	98
TTCCCTCAGGGG		GTCTGATGACTGGGGTG		
		TTAAGGGAGACCGATG		
		CGAGGGTTGGGAGTAT		
	TAGGTGGTTAGA			2 2 2 111 2 3 3 1 2 111
8-1	EF442201.1	Synechococcus sp.	89.8	92
_		TGATGACTGGGGTGAG		-
		.GGGAGACACAACTGAT		
		TCGATCGGTACCTCAGA		
		CAGTTCCTAAACTTCT(
ATTOTOGOGGETT	A COTTON COTTON	·	JICINGOICAC	

Table A2. Cont.

DGGE			D D	C::1:4
Band	Similarity Number	Closest Matching Organism	Base Pairs	•
No.			Compared	(%)
10-1	EF583859.1	Anabaena sp.	150	98
TTTTTG	GGGGAGGCGCGACGCAC	CGCTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCGTAACA.	AGGTAGCCGT	ACCGGA
AGGTG	ΓGGCTGGATCACCTCCTT	TTAGGGAGACCCAATCCGTAGAAGTTA	ATGAGTTATGA	AGTTTTG
AATGTT	TGAGTTTAAGACTTGTGA	CCTAAATCTAAACATTACAACTTCTAT	GAGATTCAAT	CCCGAG
GTCGTA	ACCGAGGTTGTGAACTTT	CAAGCTAAGTCAGGTTTGTAAATGGGC	CTATTAGCTCA	GGTGGT
TAGA				
10-2	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	97
CCGTAC	GCCAAGGGAGAGCTAGC	ATGACTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGTCGTA	ACAAGGTAG	CCGTACC
GGAAG	GTGTGGCTGGATCACCTC	CCTTTCAGGGAGACCTTACCCACCTCAA	CTCCAAAGC	ACAAAG
CGAATA	AGAGAGAGGATTGGTCA	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGG	CTCTCAAACT	TGTCTG
GGTTTA	ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA	AAACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGTGGTT.	AGAGACATTA	CCTCAG
GTGGTT	TAGA			
10-3	EU183353.1	Arthrospira sp.	204	94
AGGATO	CCGAATCAGGTCTTTTAT	GACCCCAGAACCTAGTTTGAAAGCCAC	CATACCTCGTT	CCGACC
TTTTGG	GATTGATTCTTGGTTTCC	GACTACTATTTTTCGTCTTATACCCGA	ATTAGGTCTC	CCTTTAA
GGAGG'	TGATCCAGCCACACCTTC	CCGGTACGGCTACCTTGTTACGACTTCA	.CCCCAGTCAC	CTAGCCC
TGCCTT	AGGCATCCCCCTCCTTGG	CGGTTGAGGTAACGACTTCGGGCGTGA	CA	
10-4	AM398960.1	Phormidium persicinum	135	
TTCCCT	CAGGGGGGGGTGCGACC	GCAGGTCTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGTCG	TAACAAGGTA	GCCGTA
CCGGA	AGGTGTGGCTGGATCACC	CTCCTTTAAGGGAGACCGATGACGGAT.	AGTTTACGAA	TAGATG
TAAGG	TATCAGTTGGTCATCTCG	AGGTCGAGGGTTGGGAGTATGGTATTC	CTTCAGGCTAC	GGGTCTA
GGGGC	TATTAGCTAGGTGGTTAG	GA		
11-1	EF429298.1	Leptolyngbya badia	130	98
GACTTT	CACGGCAGAGCGTCGCAT	TGCTGATGACTGGGGTGAGTCGTAACA	AGGTAGCCGT	ACCGGA
AGGTG	ΓGGCTGGATCACCTCCTT	TAAGGGAGACCGATGACGGATAGTTTA	ACGAATAGAT	GTAAGG
TATCAC	GTTGGTCATCTCGAGGTC	GAGGGTTGGGAGTATGGTATTCTTCAG	GCTAGGGTCT	AGGGGC
TATTAC	GCTAGGTGGTTAGA			
12-1	EF150986.1	Microcystis sp.	214	
CCGTAC	GCCAAGGGAGAGCTAGC	ATGACTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGTCGTA	ACAAGGTAG	CCGTACC
	CTCTCCCTCCATCACCTC	CCTTTCAGGGAGACCTTACCCACCTCAA	CTCCAAAGC	ACAAAG
GGAAG	UTUTUUCTUUATCACCTC	CITICAGGGAGACCITACCCACCICAE		10111110
		ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGG		
CGAATA	AGAGAGAGGATTGGTCA		CTCTCAAACT	TGTCTG
CGAATA	AGAGAGAGGATTGGTCA ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGG	CTCTCAAACT	TGTCTG
CGAATA GGTTTA	AGAGAGAGGATTGGTCA ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGG	CTCTCAAACT	TGTCTG
CGAATA GGTTTA GTGGTT 12-2	AGAGAGAGGATTGGTCAA ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA TAGA AM398960.1	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGG AAACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGTGGTT.	CTCTCAAACT AGAGACATTA 135	TGTCTG .CCTCAG
CGAATA GGTTTA GTGGTT 12-2 TTCCCT	AGAGAGAGGGATTGGTCA ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA TAGA AM398960.1 CCAGGGGGGGGGTGCGACO	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGGAAACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGTGGTT. Phormidium persicinum SAG	CTCTCAAACT AGAGACATTA 135 TAACAAGGTA	TGTCTG .CCTCAG
CGAATA GGTTTA GTGGTT 12-2 TTCCCT CCGGAA	AGAGAGAGGGATTGGTCAA ACTTCTAAGAAGAAGGGA TAGA AM398960.1 CCAGGGGGGGGGTGCGACC AGGTGTGGCTGGATCACC	ACCTAAGTCGGTCGAGGAATTGTGTGGAAACGAGGGCTATTAGCTAAGGTGGTT. Phormidium persicinum SAG GCAGGTCTGATGACTGGGGTGAAGTCG	CTCTCAAACT AGAGACATTA 135 TAACAAGGTA AGTTTACGAA	TGTCTG CCTCAG AGCCGTA TAGATG

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