

***Actinotaenium cucurbita***

**(Brébisson ex Ralfs) Teiling, 1954**

**Most likely ID:** n.a.

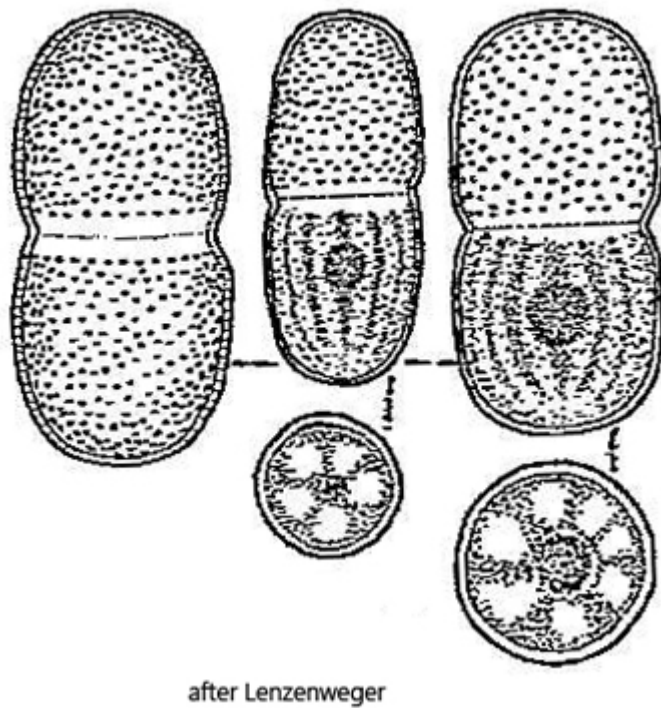
**Synonym:** n.a.

**Sampling location:** [Sima Moor \(Austria\)](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Actinotaenium cucurbita](#)

**Diagnosis:**

- cells almost cylindrical or broad ellipsoidal
- circular in apical view
- lateral margins almost straight, tapering to flat convex apices
- shallow median constriction
- length 30-50 µm, width 15-25 µm
- cells 2-2.4 times longer than wide
- chloroplasts star-shaped with irregular longitudinal ridges
- one pyrenoid per semi-cell
- cell wall punctae with 1-2 horizontal rows above isthmus



### Actinotaenium cucurbita

I have only ever found *Actinotaenium cucurbita* in [Sima Moor](#) in June 2024. The species was common there. The specimen shown below has a length to width ratio of 2.12 and is therefore in the range of 2.0–2.4 indicated by Lenzenweger (1996). I could not exactly recognize the punctation of the cell wall in the living specimen. It is best visible in empty cells of dead specimens.



**Fig. 1 a-b:** *Actinotaenium cucurbita*. L = 35 µm. Two focal planes from the [Sima Moor](#) found in June 2024. Obj. 40 X.