Actinotaenium cucurbita

(Brébisson ex Ralfs) Teiling, 1954

Most likely ID: n.a.

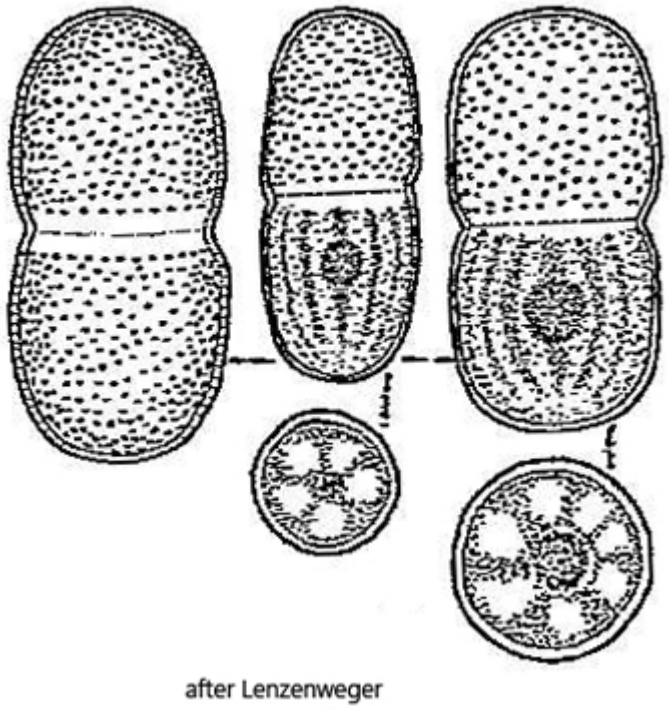
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Sima Moor (Austria)

Phylogenetic tree: *Actinotaenium cucurbita*

Diagnosis:

- cells almost cylindrical or broad ellipsoidal
- circular in apical view
- lateral margings 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.

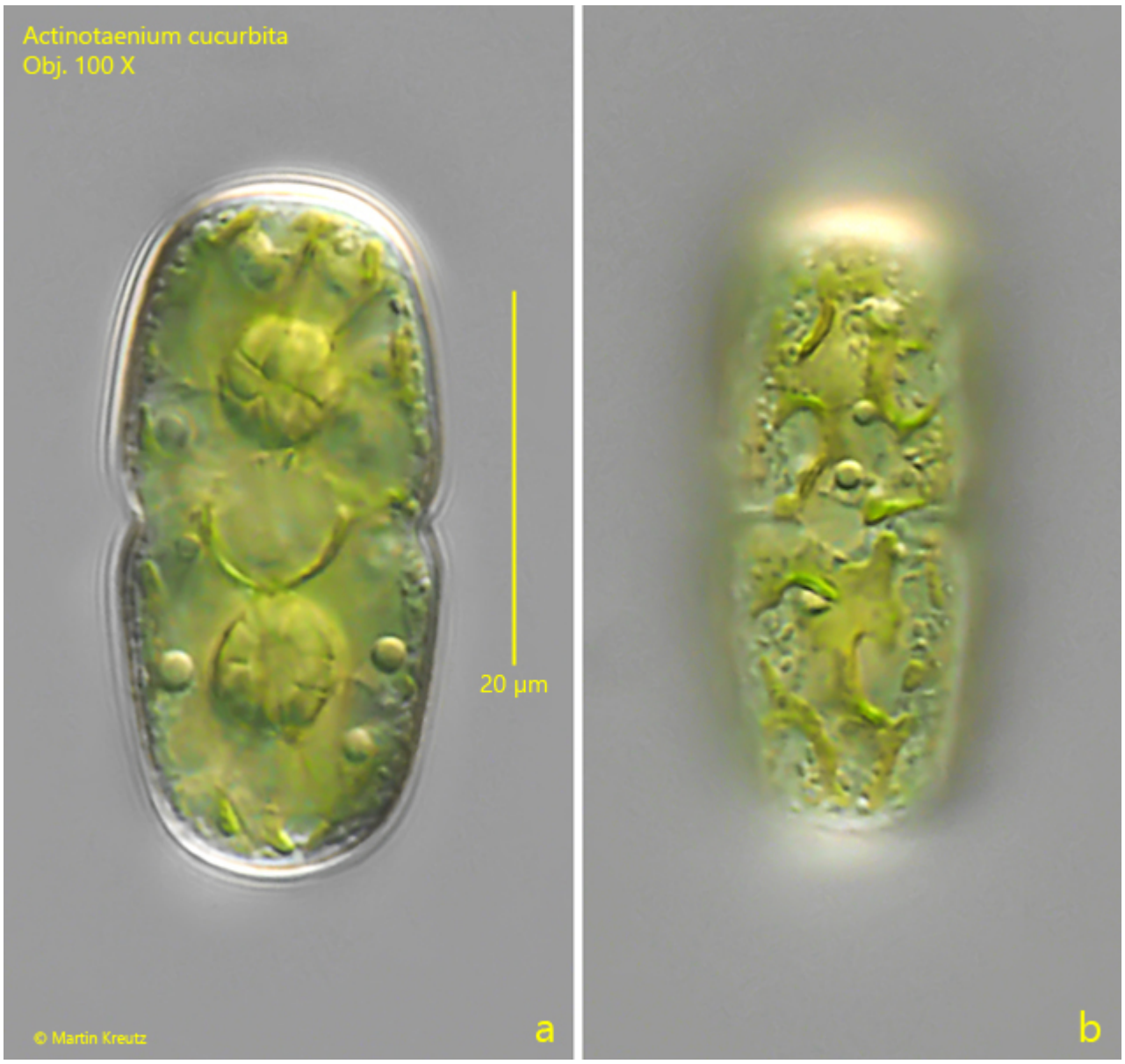


Fig. 1 a-b: *Actinotaenium cucurbita*. L = 35 µm. Two focal planes from the Sima Moor found in June 2024. Obj. 40 X.