

***Asplanchna girodi* (de Guerne, 1888)**

Most likely ID: n.a.

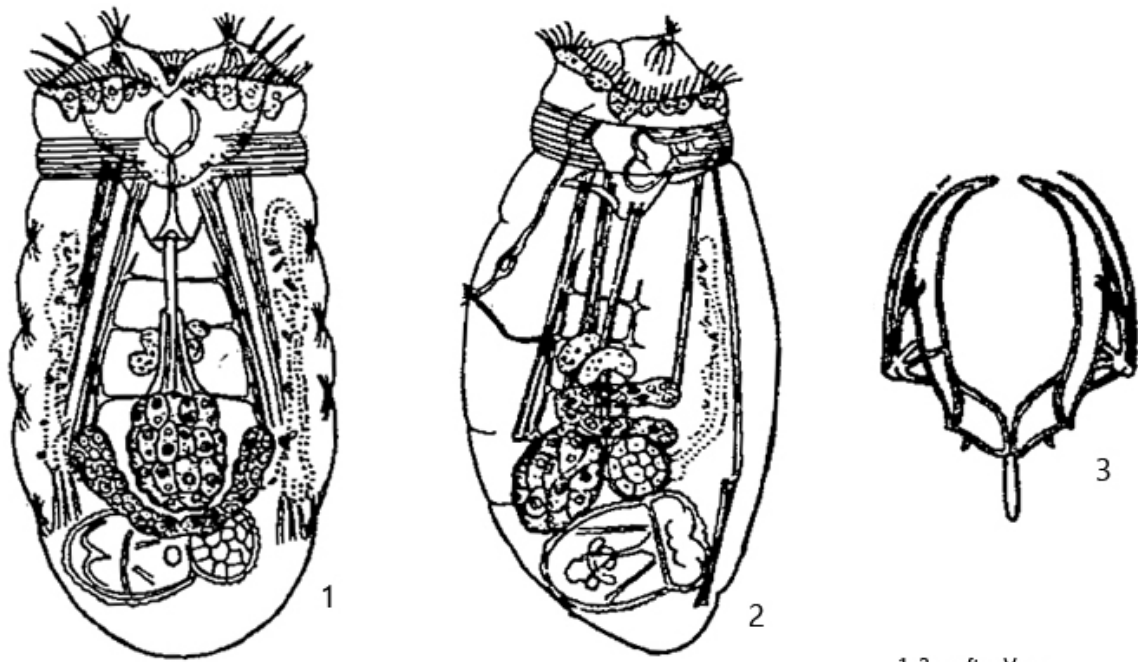
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Pond of the waste disposal company Constance](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Asplanchna girodi](#)

Diagnosis:

- body sac-shaped, transparent and flexible
- well developed corona
- length 500–700 µm
- vitellarium horseshoe-shaped
- nucleoli of nuclei in yolk glands rounded (not lobed)
- jaws of trophi without teeth
- no apophysis at base of rami
- one cerebral eyespot
- foot absent
- intestine absent
- planktonic lifestyle



1, 2 = after Van
3 = after Rousselet

Asplanchna girodi

So far I have only found *Asplanchna girodi* in the [pond of the waste disposal company in Constance](#), which is highly eutrophic. The species often occurs in parallel with *Asplanchna priodonta*. However, these two species can be easily distinguished by the shape of the vitellarium. In *Asplanchna priodonta* it is globular, whereas in *Asplanchna girodi* it is horseshoe-shaped. However, *Asplanchna brightwelli* also has this shape of U-shaped vitellarium. Finally, to differentiate between these two species the trophi have to be investigated, which is smooth and without teeth in *Asplanchna girodi*, while a distinct teeth are present in the middle of the rami in *Asplanchna brightwelli*. In addition, there are clear apophyses at the basal end of the trophi in *Asplanchna brightwelli*. These are outwardly directed teeth at the basal end of the rami.

More images and information on *Asplanchna girodi*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-Asplanchna girodi](#)

Asplanchna girodi
Obj. 40 X

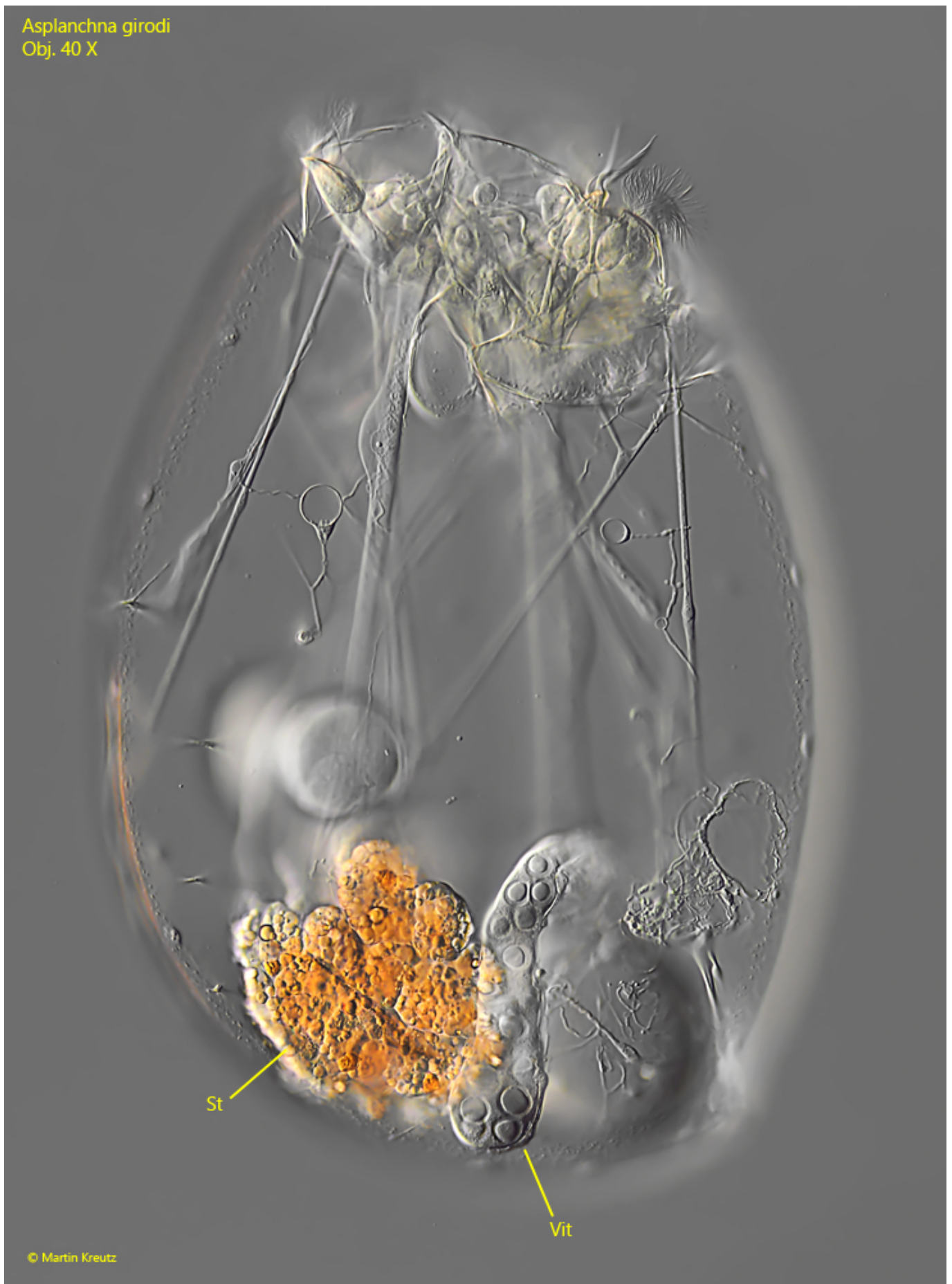
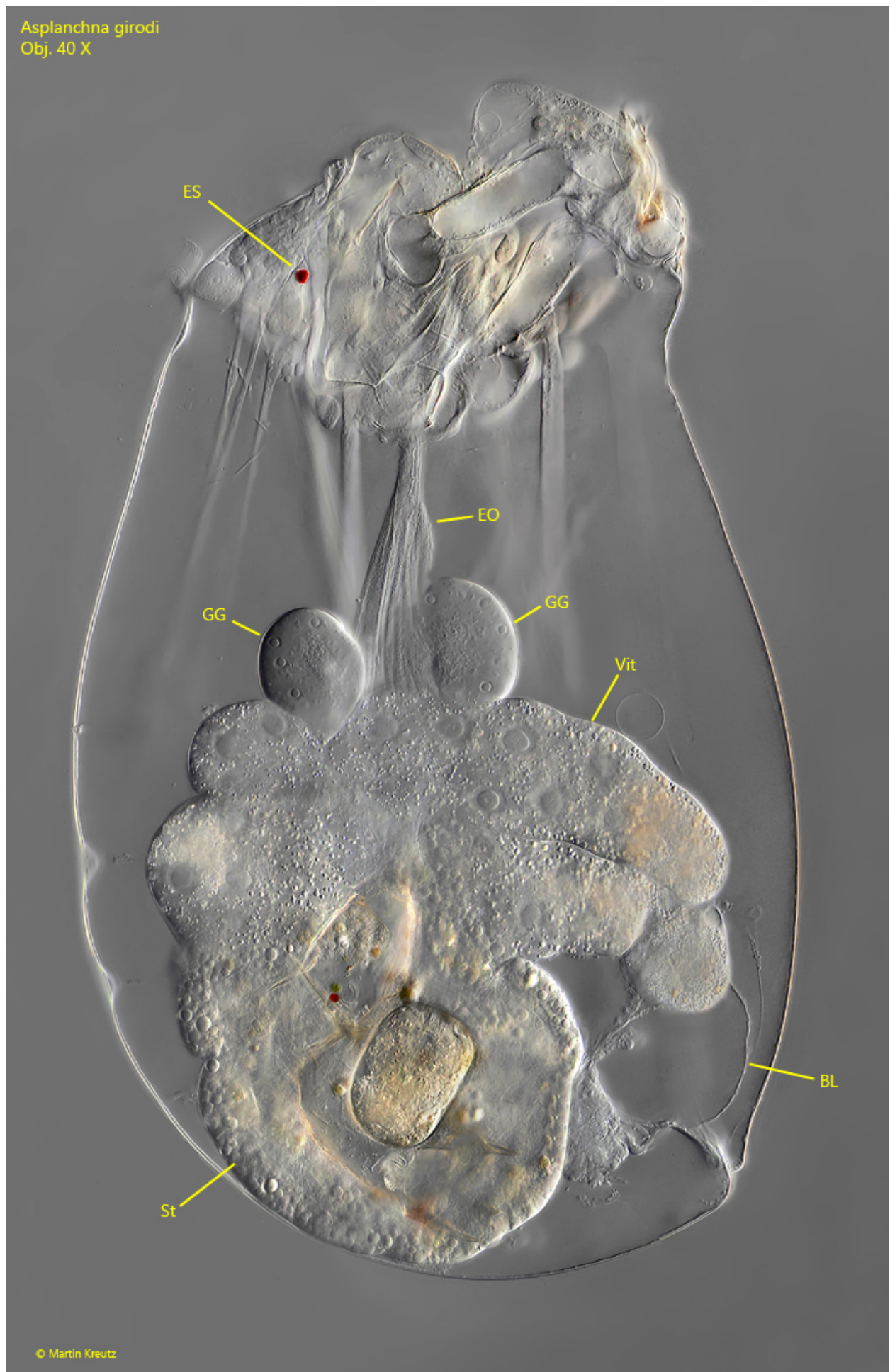


Fig. 1: *Asplanchna girodi*. L = 520 μ m. A slightly squashed specimen. Note the U-shaped

vitellarium (Vit, only partly visible). Obj. 40 X.

Asplanchna girodi
Obj. 40 X



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Fig. 2: *Asplanchna girodi*. L = 580 μ m. A second slightly squashed specimen. BL = bladder, ES = cerebral eyespot, EO = esophagus, GG = gastric glands, St = stomach, Vit = vitellarium. Obj. 40 X.

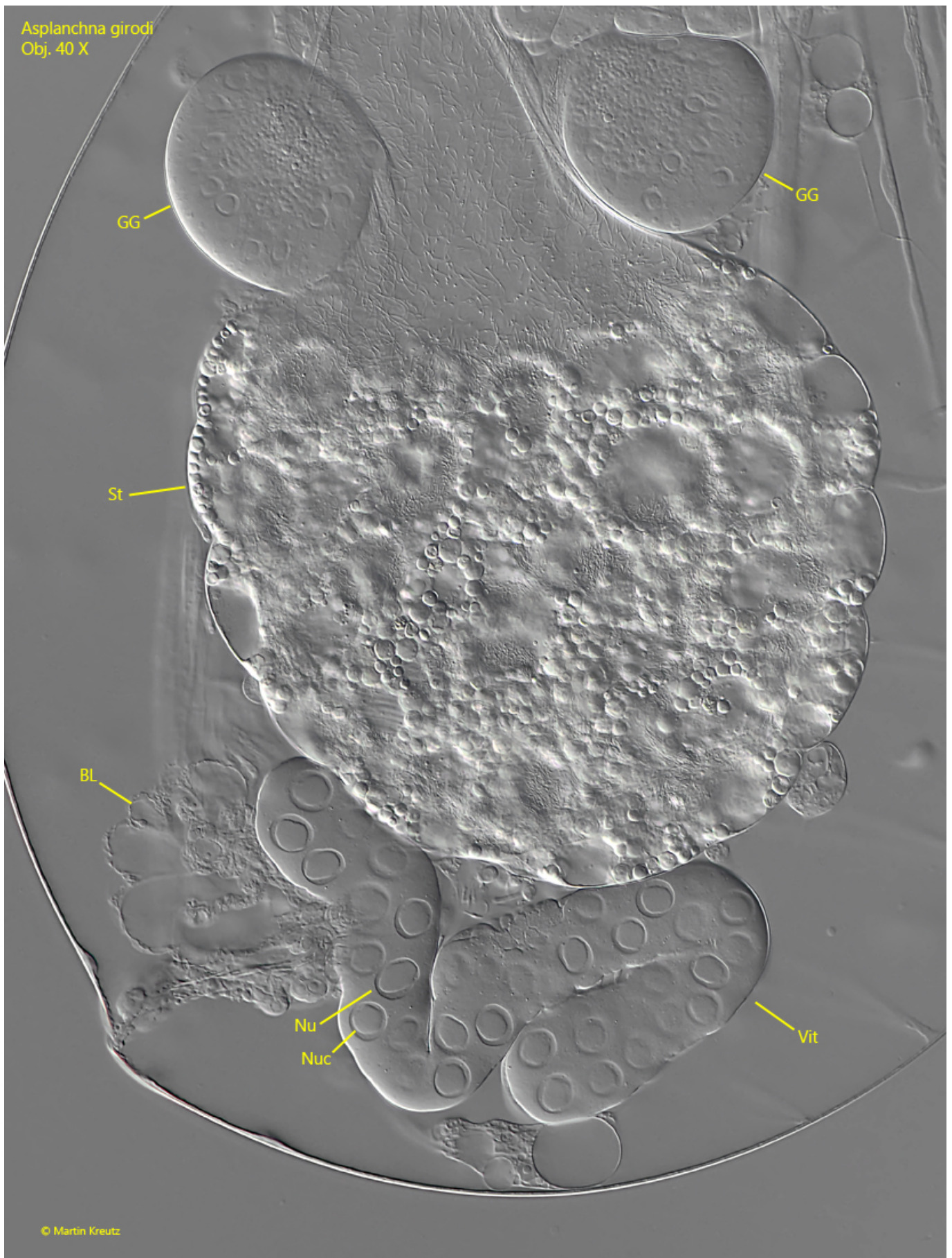


Fig. 3: *Asplanchna girodi*. A squashed specimen with a slightly deformed vitellarium (Vit). Note the large, rounded nucleoli (Nuc) in the nuclei (Nu) of the vitellarium. BL = bladder,

GG = gastric glands, St = stomach. Obj. 40 X.

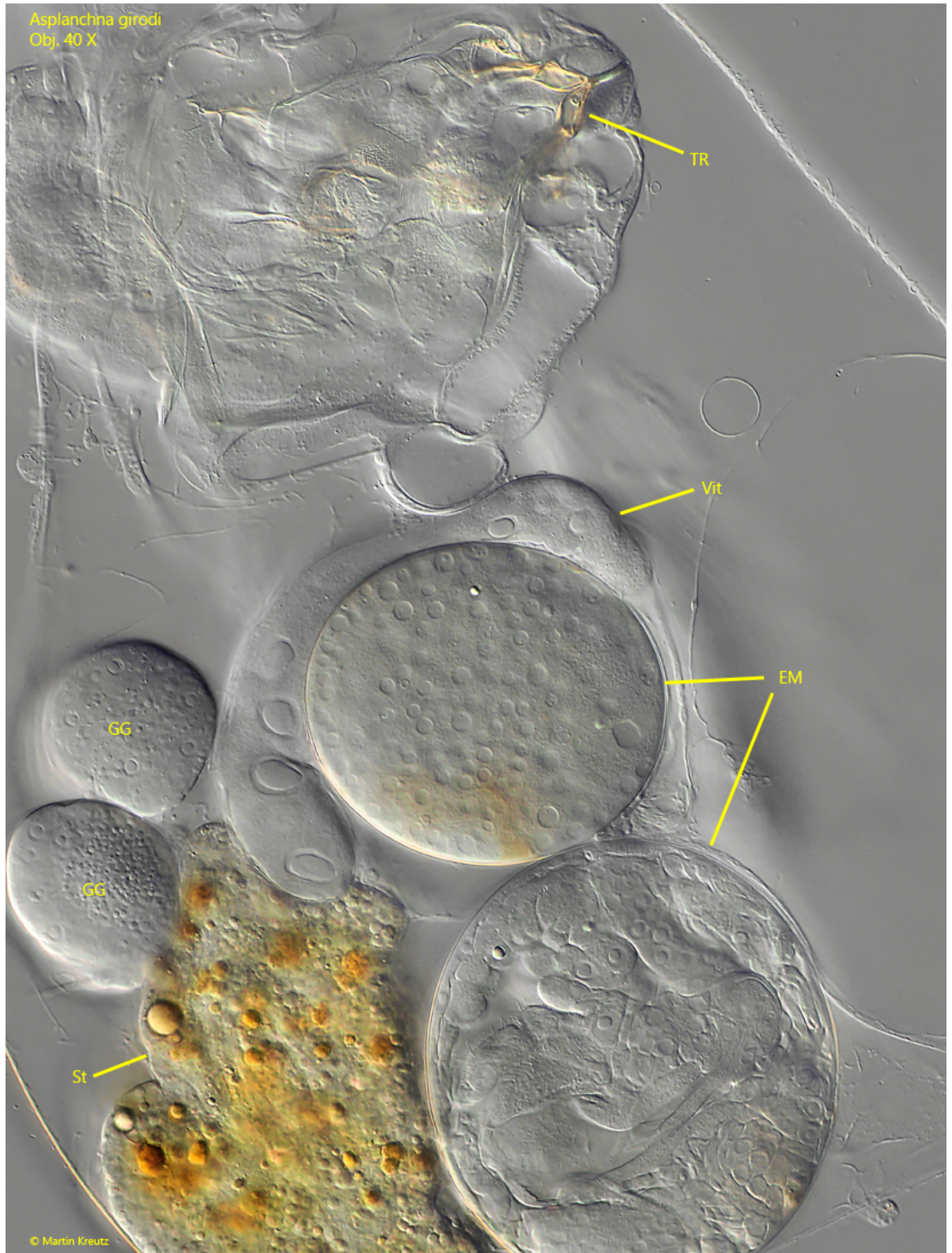


Fig. 4: *Asplanchna girodi*. A second squashed specimen with focal plane on the vitellarium (Vit) and two embryos (EM) in different states of development. GG = gastric glands, St = stomach, TR = trophi. Obj. 40 X.

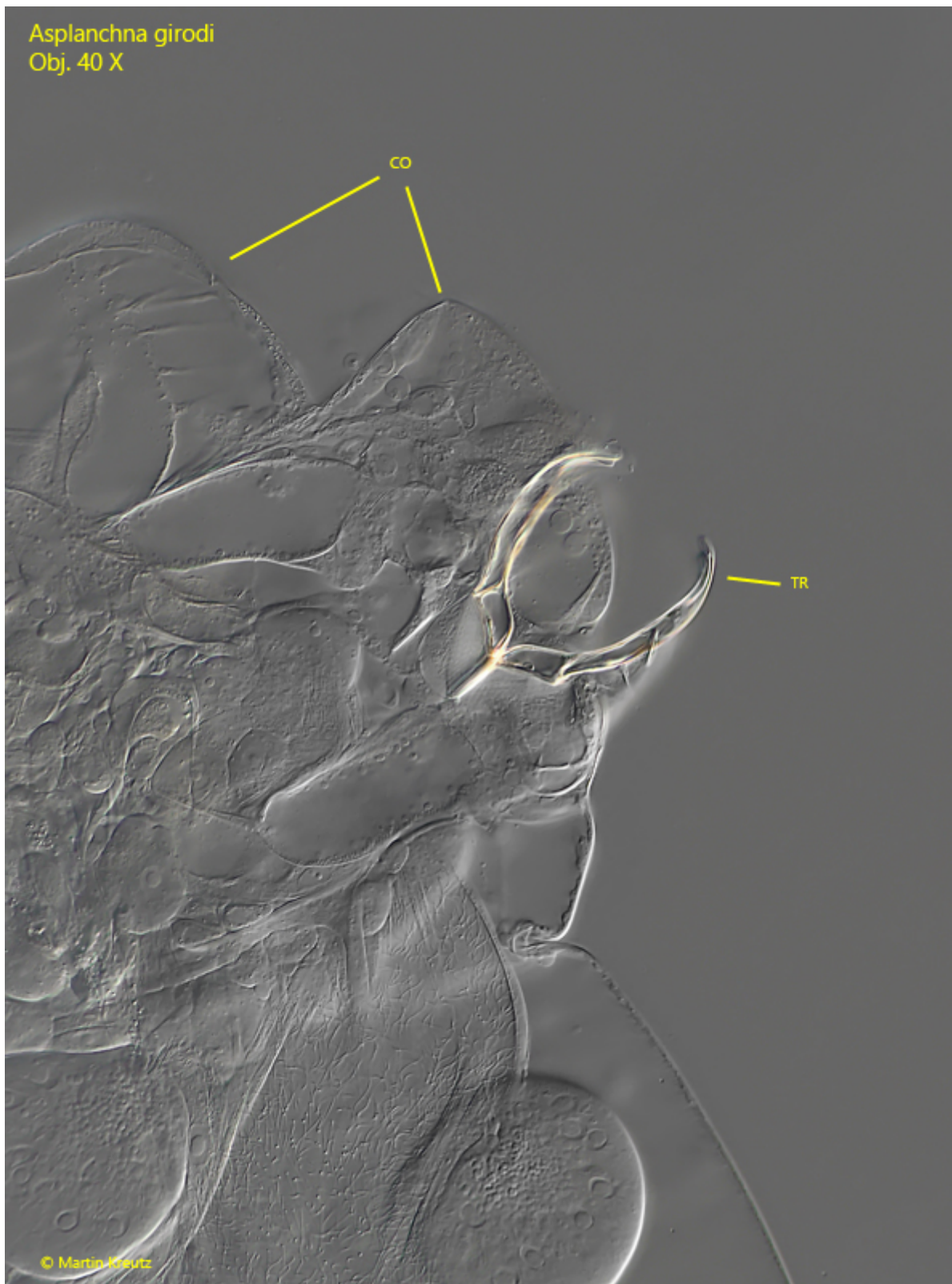


Fig. 5: *Asplanchna girodi*. The stronger squashed specimen as shown in fig. 4. The corona (CO) is flattened and the trophi (TR) become visible. Obj. 40 X.



Fig. 6: *Asplanchna girodi*. The trophi in detail. The rami are smooth without any teeth. Obj. 100 X.

Asplanchna girodi
Obj. 40 X



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Fig. 7: *Asplanchna girodi*. L = 228 μ m. A male specimen with a rudimentary digestive system (RDS). The testis (TE) is filled with sperm cells (SC). PE = penis. Obj. 40 X.