Astasia klebsii Lemmermann, 1910

Most likely ID: n.a.

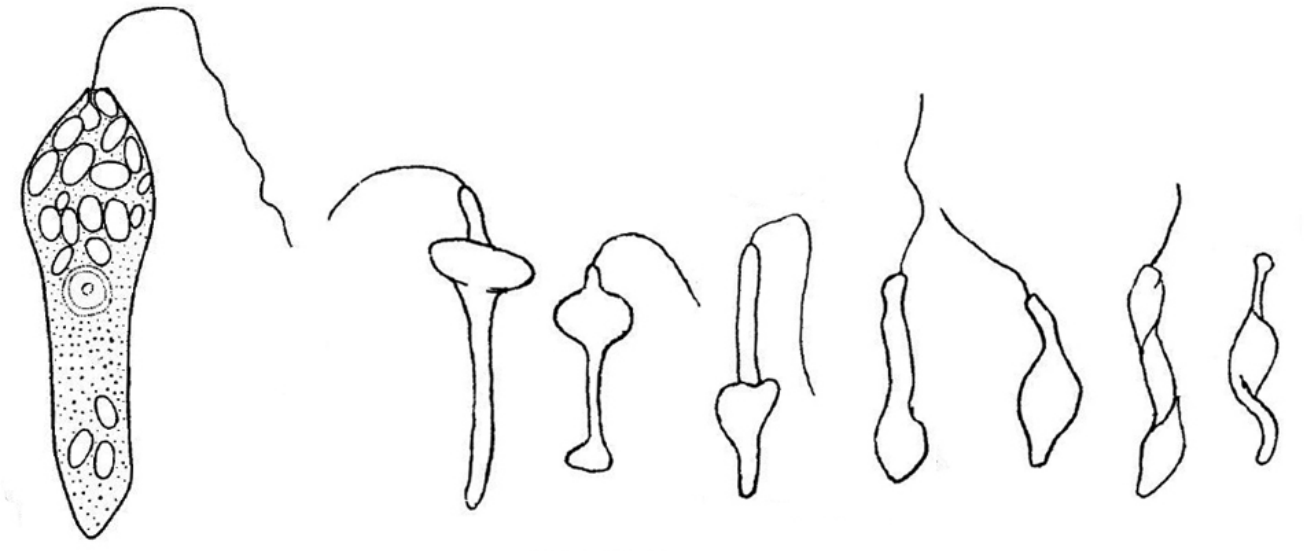
Synonym: n. a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: ***Astasia klebsii***

Diagnosis:

- body spindle shaped (of elongated cell)
- length 50–60 µm (of elongated cell)
- one flagellum, almost body length
- anterior end transversely truncated
- eyespot absent
- paramylon bodies oval or egg-shaped
- very active euglenoid movement
- a disc-shaped broadening of the body moves to the posterior end
- body can twist along the longitudinal axis
  posterior end always rounded
- weak striation of pellicle



after Pringsheim

Astasia klebsii

Astasia klebsii is very common in the Simmelried. The name of the genus is derived from “Astasis”, which medically means the inability of motor coordination. In fact, *Astasia klebsii* is extraordinarily metabolic and in constant motion. It is dominated by a disc-shaped widening of the anterior end, which moves in a wave-like manner to the posterior end. But also a twisting of the body along the longitudinal axis is possible. Other characteristic features of *Astasia klebsii* are the body length of 50–60 µm (of the elongated specimens, s. fig. 1a), the oval or egg-shaped paramylon grains (s. fig. 1 h) and the flagellum approximately of body length (s. fig. 1 g). In all metabolic movements the posterior end remains rounded and does not form a tip.

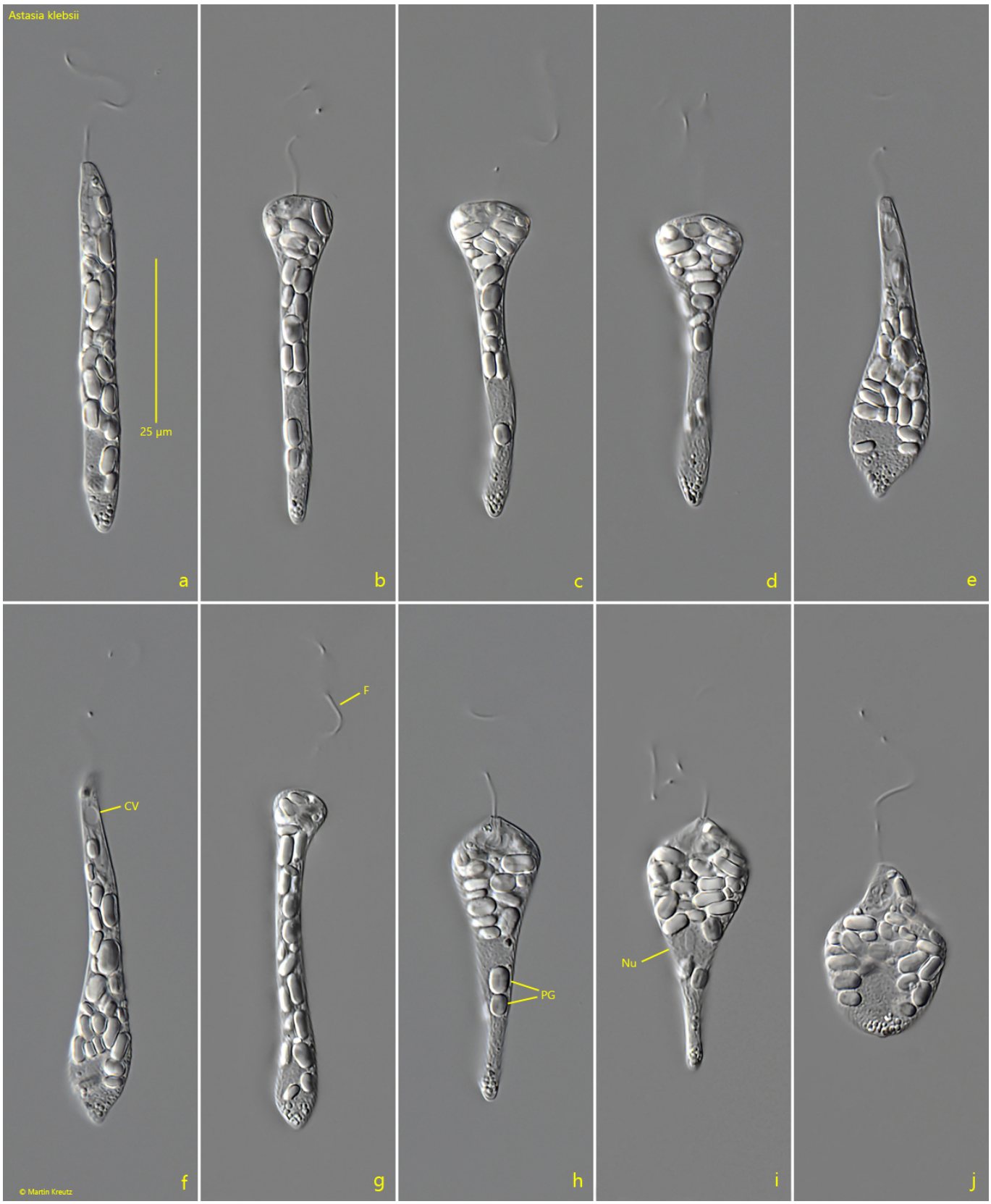


Fig. 1 a-j: *Astasia klebsii.* L = 57 µm (of elongated specimen, a). Different stages of the metabolic movement of a freely swimming specimen. CV = contractile vacuole, F = flagellum, Nu = nucleus, PG = oval paramylon grains. Obj. 100 X.

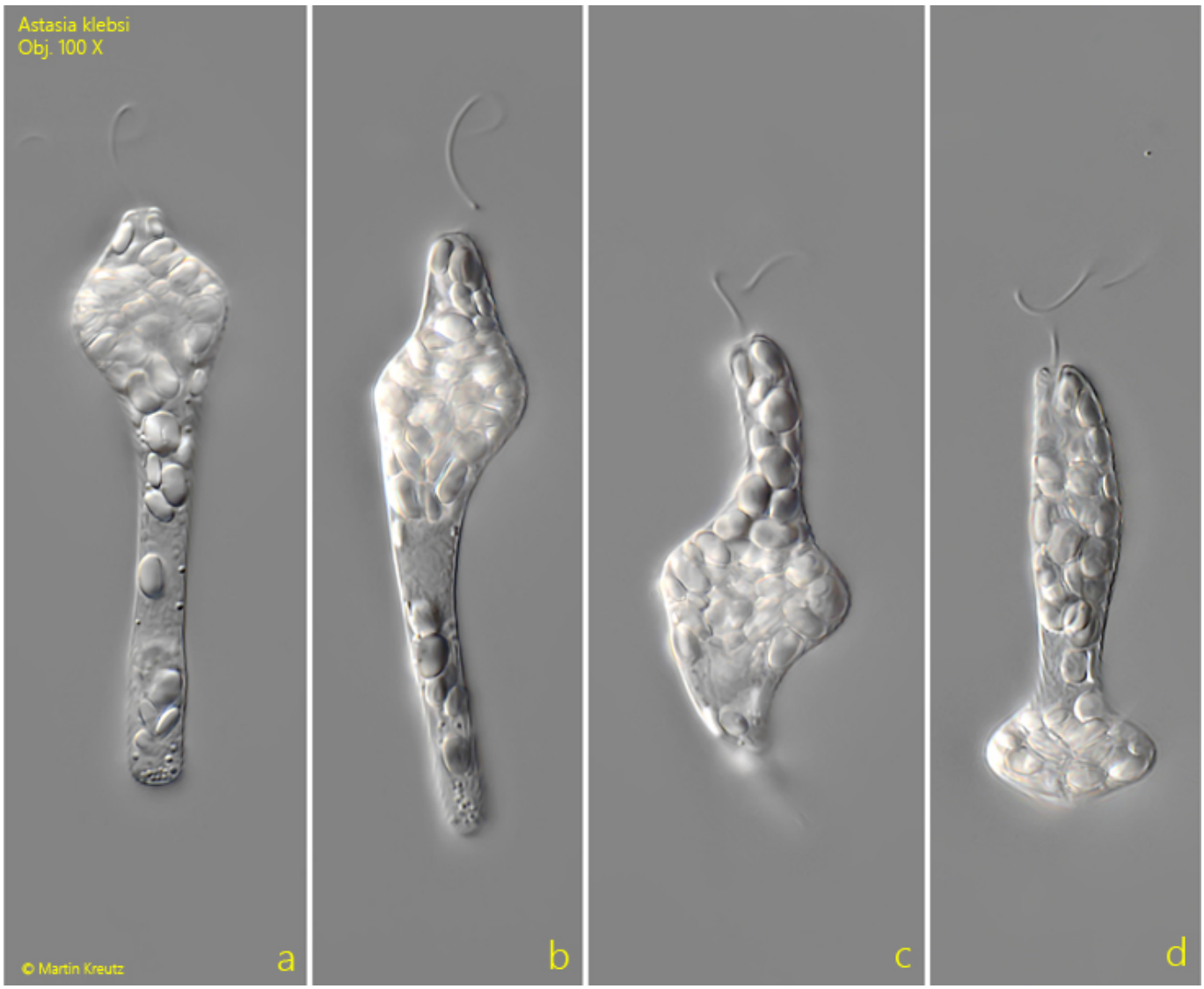


Fig. 2 a-d: *Astasia klebsii.* L = 66 µm (of elongated specimen, b). A second metabolic specimen. Obj. 100 X.

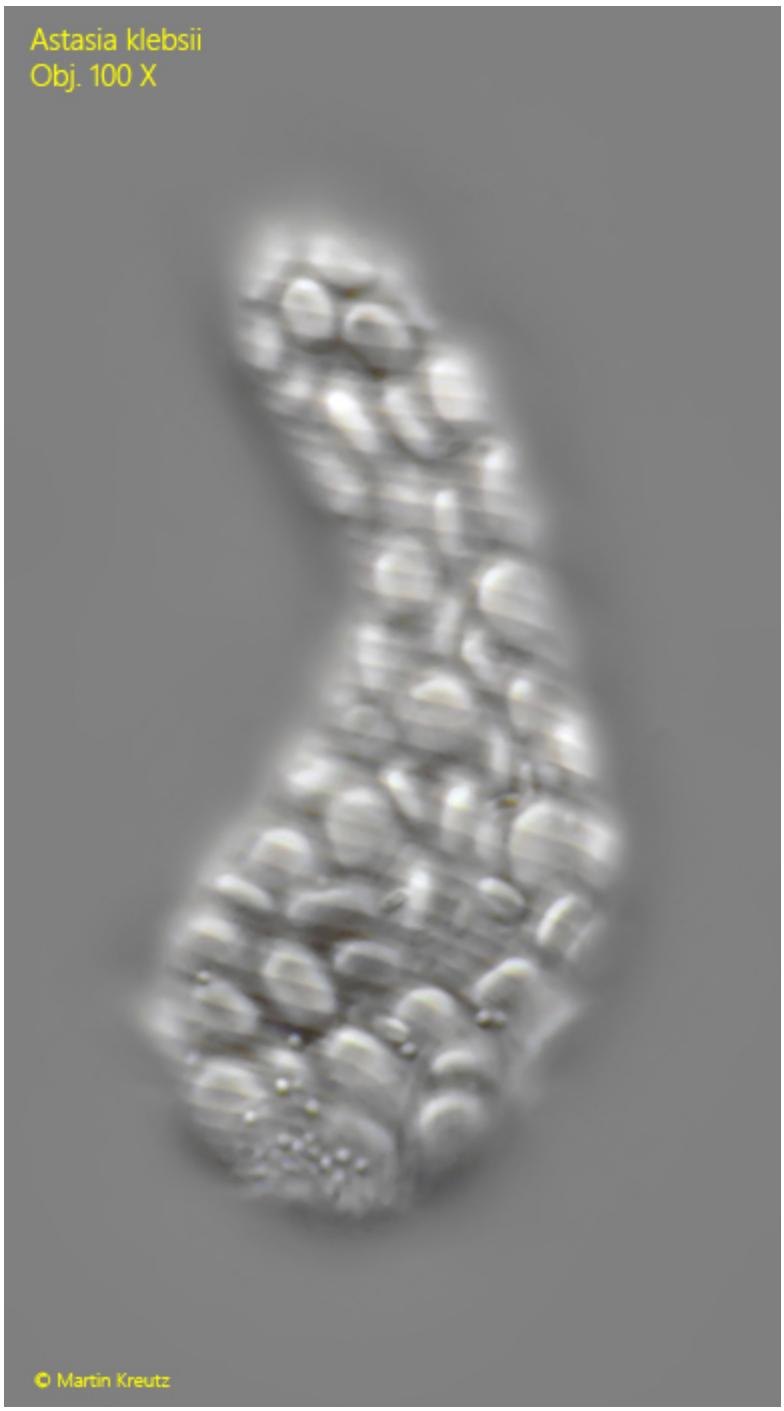


Fig. 3: *Astasia klebsii.* Focal plane one the counterclockwise running striation of the pellicle of a slightly squashed specimen. Obj. 100 X.