

***Astasia tortuosa***  
**(Stokes) Popova, 1951**

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

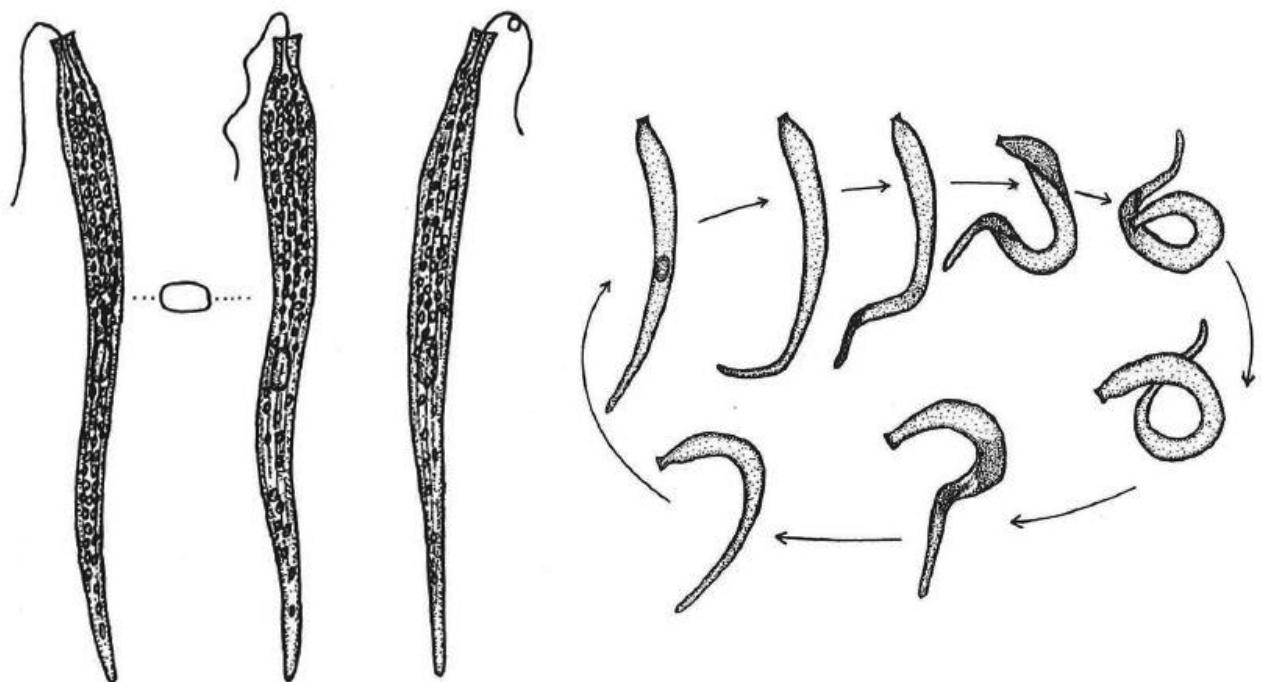
**Synonym:** *Menoidium tortuosum*

**Sampling location:** [Simmelried](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [\*Astasia tortuosa\*](#)

**Diagnosis:**

- cell strongly elongated and flattened, sometimes C- or S-shaped, metabolic
- cell narrows and tapers to posterior end into rounded tip
- anterior end with neck-like tapering
- length 74–95 µm, width 4.5–9 µm
- mouth opening distinctly truncated transversally
- one flagellum, about a third of body length
- reservoir elongate oval
- nucleus central, oval
- paramylon grains uniform
- periplast with fine striation



after Angeler

### Astasia tortuosa

I find *Astasia tortuosa* very often in the mud from [Simmelried](#). The species differs from other species of the genus *Astasia* in its considerable length of almost 100 µm and the shapes of the metabolic movement, which often take a C- or S-shape. In addition to that the anterior end is tapered in a neck-like manner. The paramylon grains are mostly in the frontal half and are about the same size.



a

b

c



d

e

f

**Fig. 1 a-f:** *Astasia tortuosa*. L = 98  $\mu$ m. Different stages of metabolic movement of a specimen. F = flagellum, Nu = nucleus, PG = paramylon grains, Re = reservoir. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 2 a-c:** *Astasia tortuosa*. L = 93  $\mu$ m. Different stages of metabolic movement of a second specimen. Obj. 100 X.

*Astasia tortuosa*  
Obj. 100 X



**Fig. 3 a-b:** *Astasia tortuosa*. A strongly squashed specimen. Note the clockwise running striation of the pellicle (SP). Obj. 100 X.