

***Chaetonotus rotundus* (Greuter, 1917)**

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

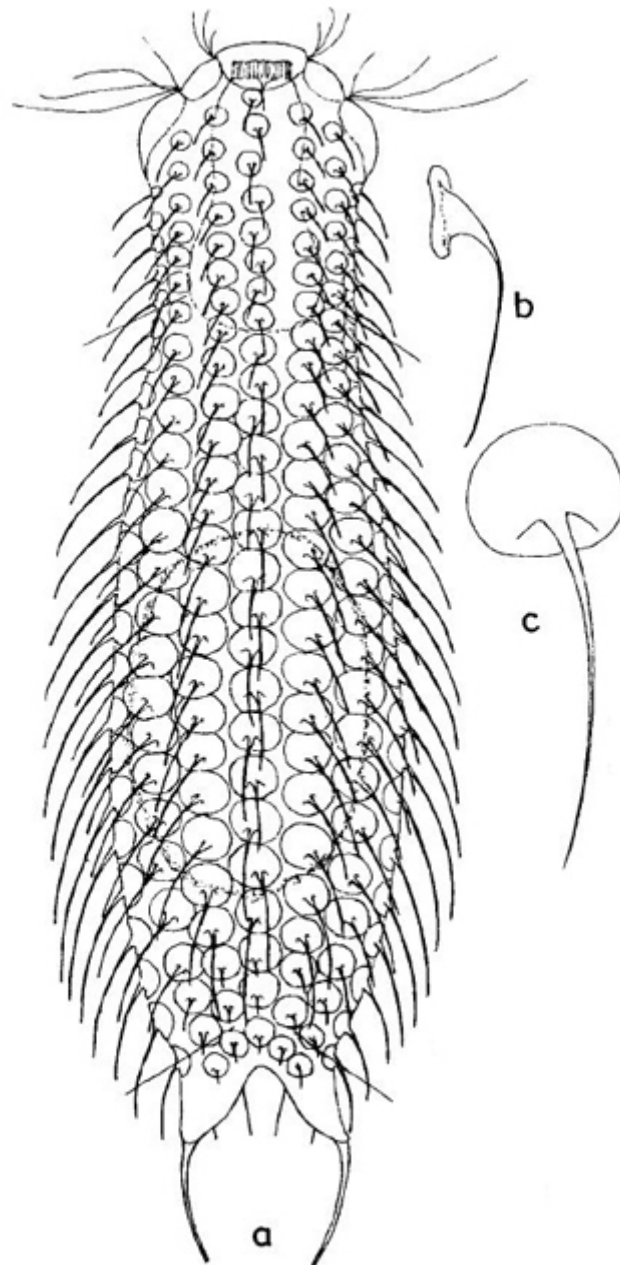
**Synonym:** *Primochaetus rotundus*

**Sampling location:** [Purren Pond](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Chaetonotus rotundus](#)

**Diagnosis:**

- length 190 – 280 µm (274 – 280 µm acc. Schwank, s. [Literature](#))
- head five-lobed
- posterior pleurae widest
- base of dorsal scales circular or slightly oval, sometimes with an indentation at the rear end
- dorsal scales 10 – 15 µm in diameter (16 X 18.5 µm acc. Schwank, s. [Literature](#))
- scales with simple spines
- dorsal scales do not overlap, 6 – 7 longitudinal rows
- ventral scales 3-5 µm long, shovel-shaped, with a small keel
- posteriorly two large terminal scales with a V-shaped incision
- oral opening with a tooth-shaped organ
- adhesive tubes distally pointed



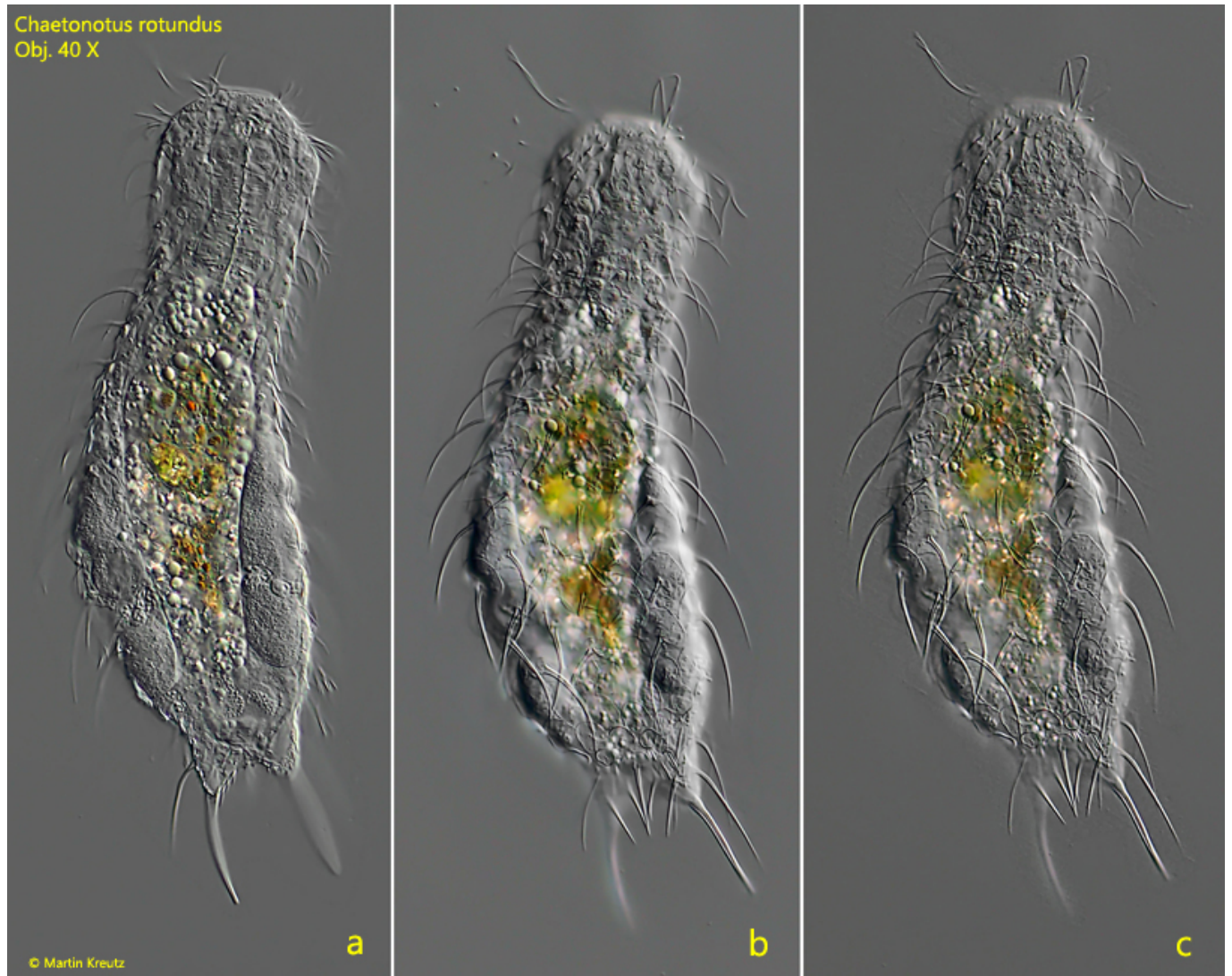
a = after Greuter  
b, c = after Roszczak

### Chaetonotus rotundus

I found several specimens of *Chaetonotus rotundus* among rotting leaves in [Purren Pond](#). The specimens of my population were smaller with about 200 µm length than the 274 - 280 µm given by Schwank (s. [Literature](#)). The species can be recognized very well by the almost circular dorsal scales, which do not, or only slightly, overlap. In the investigated population from [Purren pond](#) the base of the scales was not 16 x 18.5 µm in size (acc. Schwank, s. [Literature](#)), but only 10 - 15 µm in diameter. Furthermore, the oval scales showed a round indentation at the rear edge, so that they appeared almost heart-shaped (s. fig. 5).

The species is considered rare and there are only few descriptions available. I could examine the dorsal as well as the ventral side in detail and was able to document the previously unknown structure of the dorsal and ventral side (s. figs. 5 - 7). In the oral

opening I could detect a tooth-shaped organ, what was also not described yet (s. fig. 8).

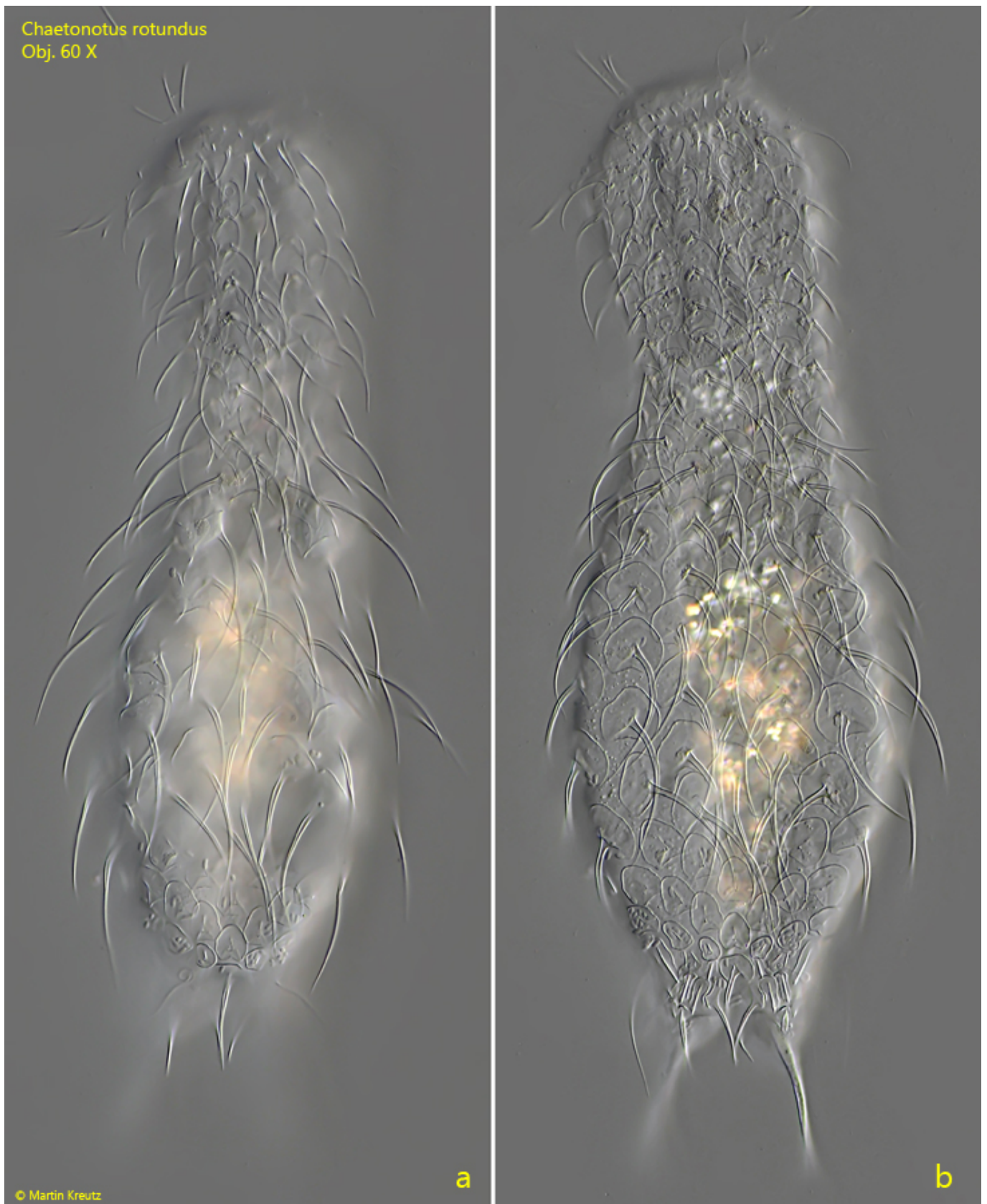


**Fig. 1 a-c:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. L = 196  $\mu$ m. Dorsal view of a freely swimming specimen. Obj. 40 X.



**Fig. 2 a-b:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. L = 206  $\mu\text{m}$ . Ventral view (a) and lateral view from right (b) of a freely swimming specimen. Obj. 40 X.



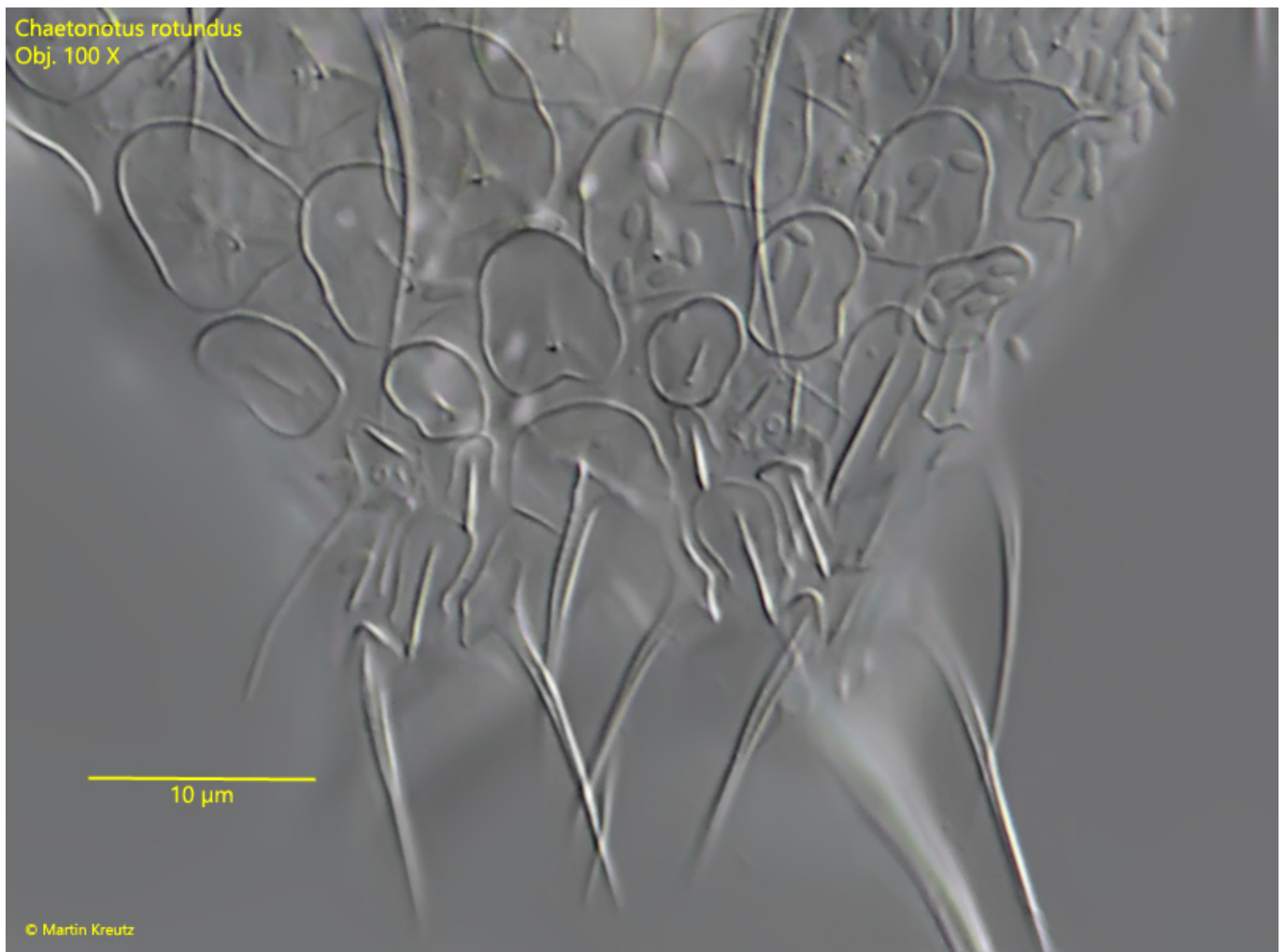


**Fig. 3 a-b:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. L = 216  $\mu$ m. Dorsal view of a slightly squashed specimen in two focal planes. Obj. 60 X.



**Fig. 4:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. The dorsal scales in detail. Obj. 100 X.





**Fig. 5:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. Detail of the dorsal scales at the posterior end. Obj. 100 X.

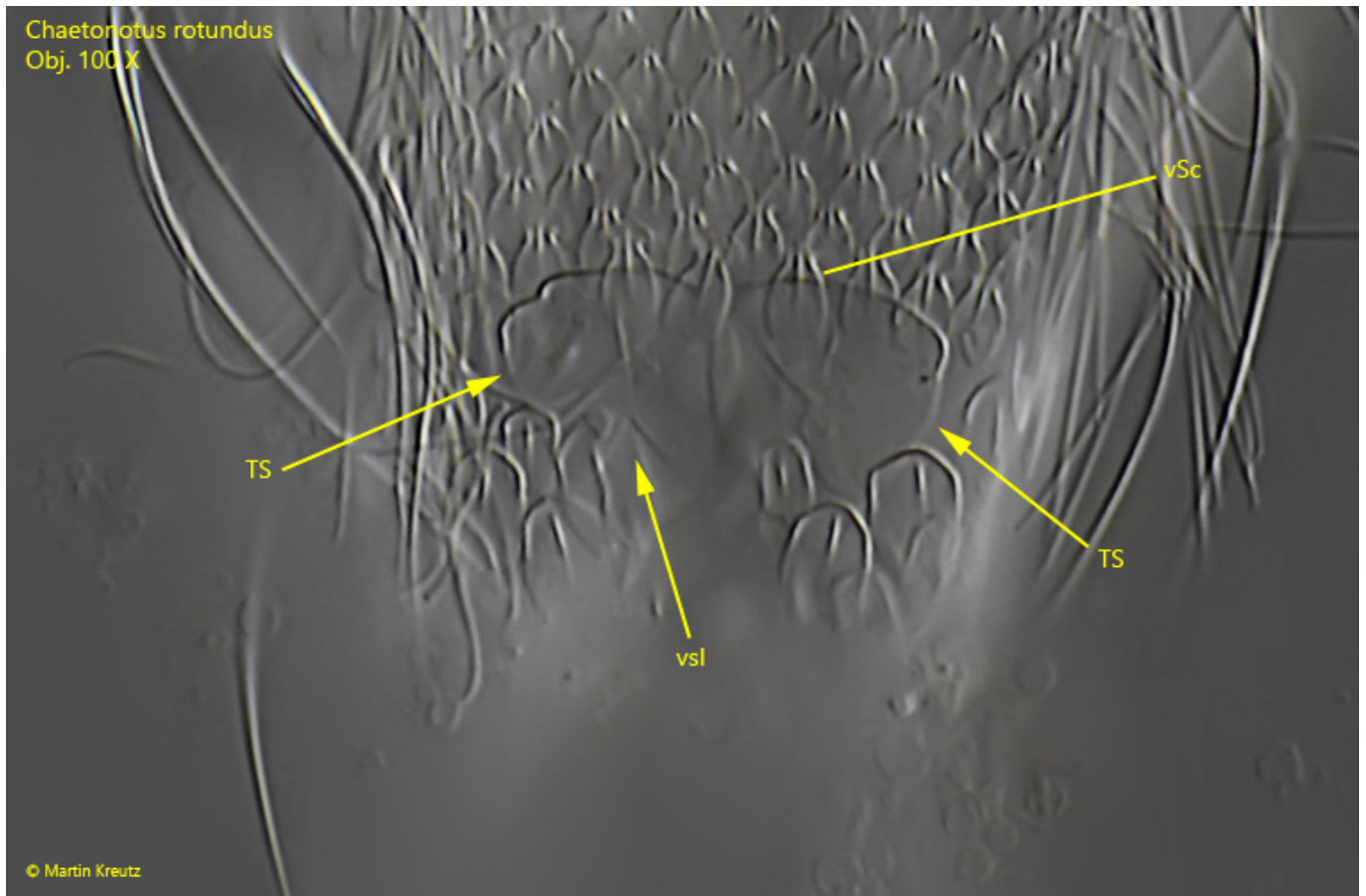
*Chaetonotus rotundus*  
Obj. 100 X



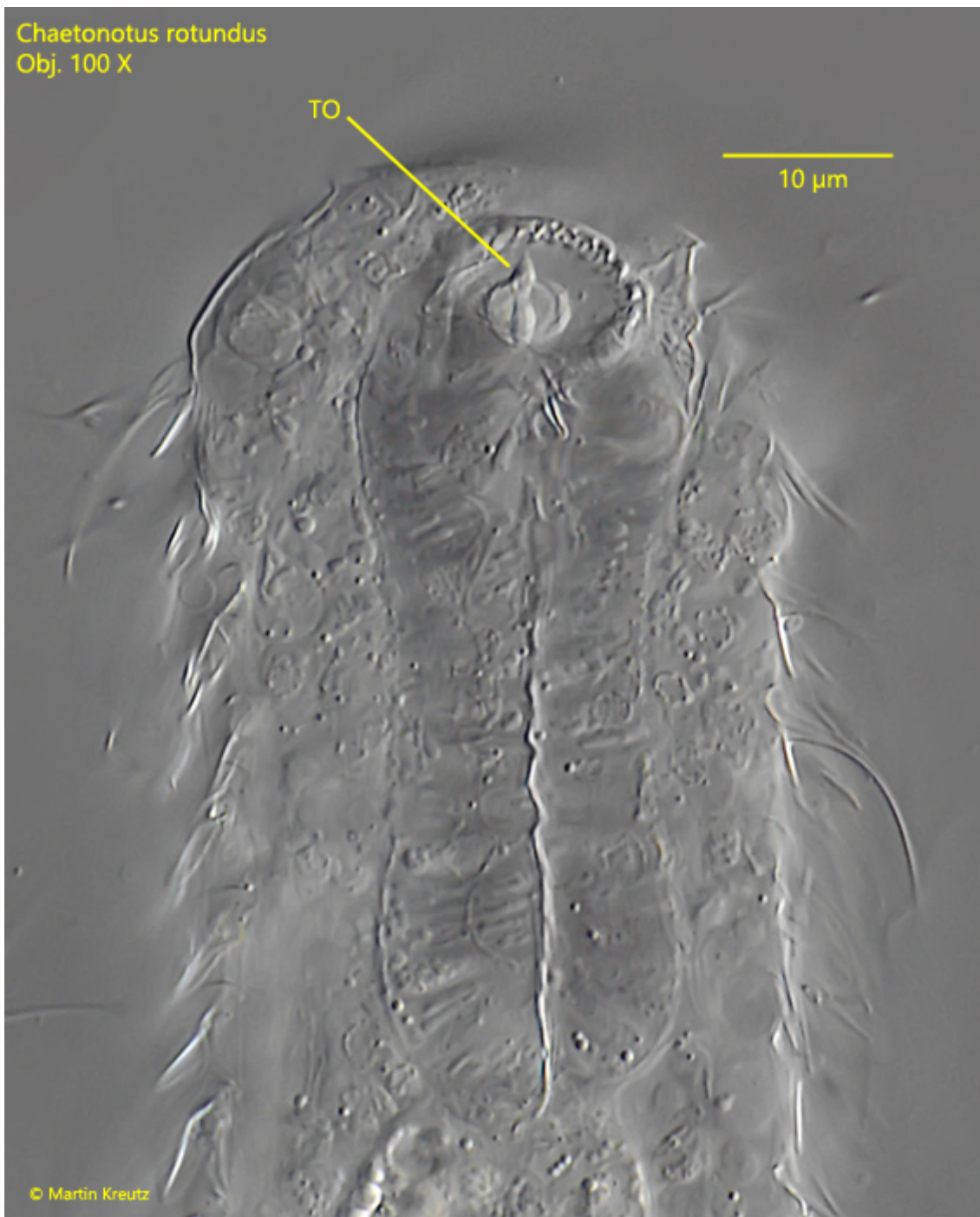
© Martin Kreutz



**Fig. 6:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. L = 206  $\mu\text{m}$ . Ventral view of a squashed specimen. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 7:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. L = 206  $\mu\text{m}$ . Detailed view of the ventral scales at the posterior end. vSc = shovel-shaped ventral scales, TS = large terminal scales, vsl = V-shaped incision of the terminal scales. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 8:** *Chaetonotus rotundus*. A ventral view of the oral opening reveals a tooth-like organ (TO) of unknown function. Obj. 100 X.