

Closterium cornu

Ehrenberg ex Ralfs, 1848

Most likely ID: n.a.

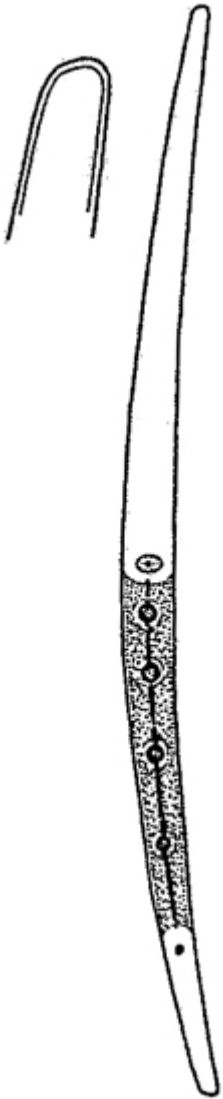
Synonyms: *Closterium pseudospirotaenium* var. *variabile*, *Closterium polymorphum*

Sampling location: [Lauchsee Moor \(Austria\)](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Closterium cornu](#)

Diagnosis:

- cell long, slender, slightly curved
- length 90-211 µm, width 5-15 µm
- two chloroplasts, each with 3 longitudinal ridges
- 2-6 pyrenoids per chloroplast
- girdle bands absent
- cell wall smooth, colorless
- apices narrowly rounded or obliquely flattened
- terminal vacuole with one gypsum crystal (rarely several)



after Homfeld

Closterium cornu

Closterium cornu is a comparatively common species. I found numerous specimens in old samples from the [Lauchsee Moor](#) in Austria in September 2025.

This medium-sized form has a slender cell shape with a very weak curvature. An important feature for identification is the shape of the apices. In *Closterium cornu* they are broadly rounded, almost somewhat flattened. In the similar species *Closterium acutum*, the apices taper much more into thin points. The cell wall of *Closterium cornu* is smooth and without structure.

In my population I could not clearly determine the number of pyrenoids and the shape of the chloroplasts due to embedded starch grains. I also could not clearly identify the terminal vacuoles, in which either a larger crystal or several smaller

ones are supposed to be present.

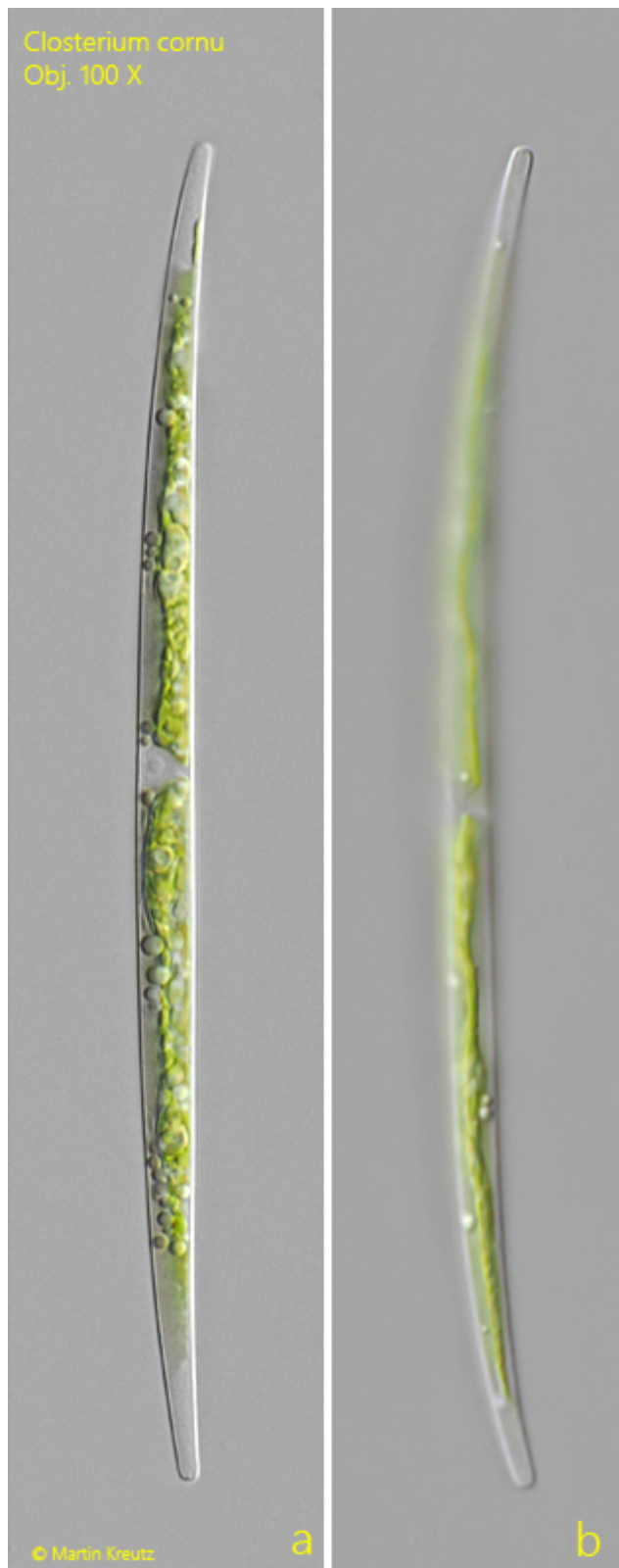


Fig. 1 a-b: *Closterium cornu*. L = 127 μ m. Two focal planes of a specimen found in the [Lauchsee Moor](#). Obj. 100 X.



Fig. 2: *Closterium cornu*. The rounded and slightly flattened apex in detail. Obj. 100 X.