

***Coleps hirtus var. minor* (Kahl, 1930)**

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

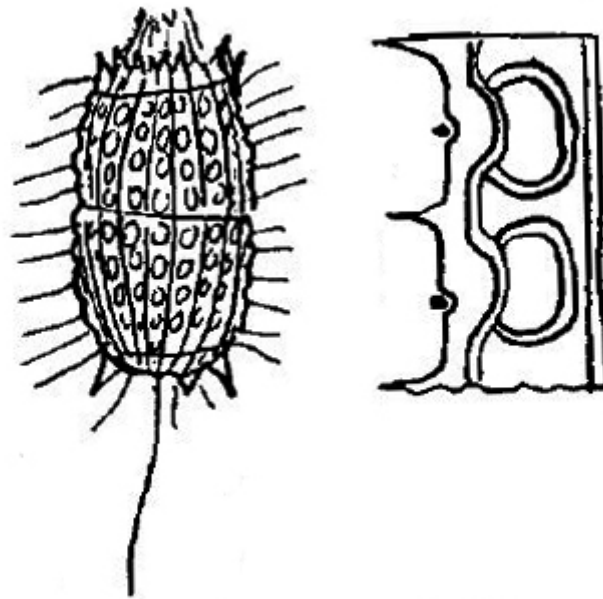
**Synonym:** n. a.

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

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Coleps hirtus var. minor](#)

**Diagnosis:**

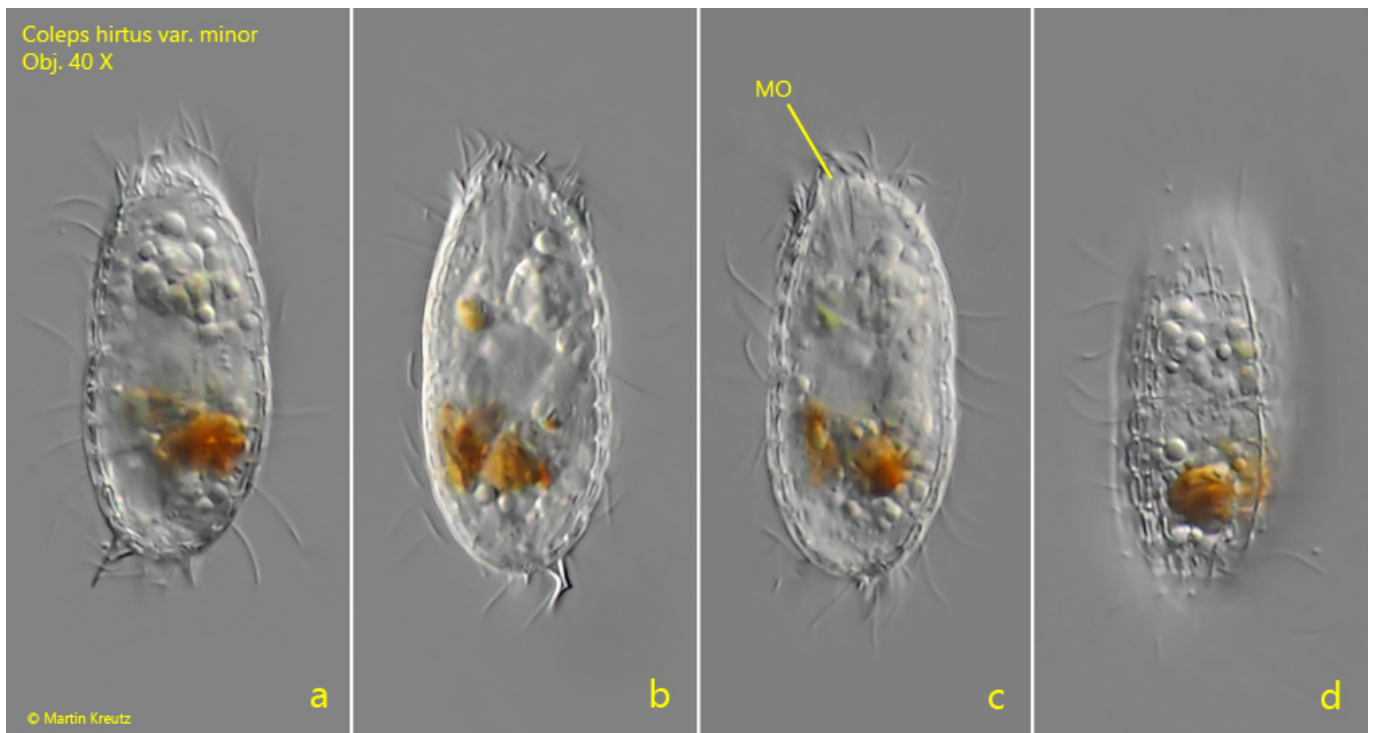
- length 35–45 µm
- cell has a barrel-shaped form
- contracile vacuole sub-terminal
- uniform ciliation
- 13 longitudinal rows of plates
- one caudal cilium (hard to see)
- macronucleus spherical
- apical mouth opening with basket
- posterior spines are broadened at the base
- shape of the “windows” in the carapace are rectangular with rounded corners



after Kahl

*Coleps hirtus* var. *minor*

I first noticed *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor* in my samples when they occurred simultaneously with [Coleps hirtus](#). The specimens gathered together with many [Coleps hirtus](#) at the surface of a sample taken from the Simmeried. A direct comparison shows that *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor* is much smaller and also has a more stocky body compared to [Coleps hirtus](#). Upon close inspection of the armour I could confirm the description by Kahl, that in this variety the “windows” in the armour are not pretzel-shaped (as described for [Coleps hirtus](#)), but rectangular with rounded corners (s. fig. 3). I could recognize the caudal cilium in the living specimens, but unfortunately the photographic documentation is not fully sufficient (s. fig. 2a). Because of the simultaneous occurrence with [Coleps hirtus](#) I can confirm Kahl’s opinion that *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor* is a constant form.

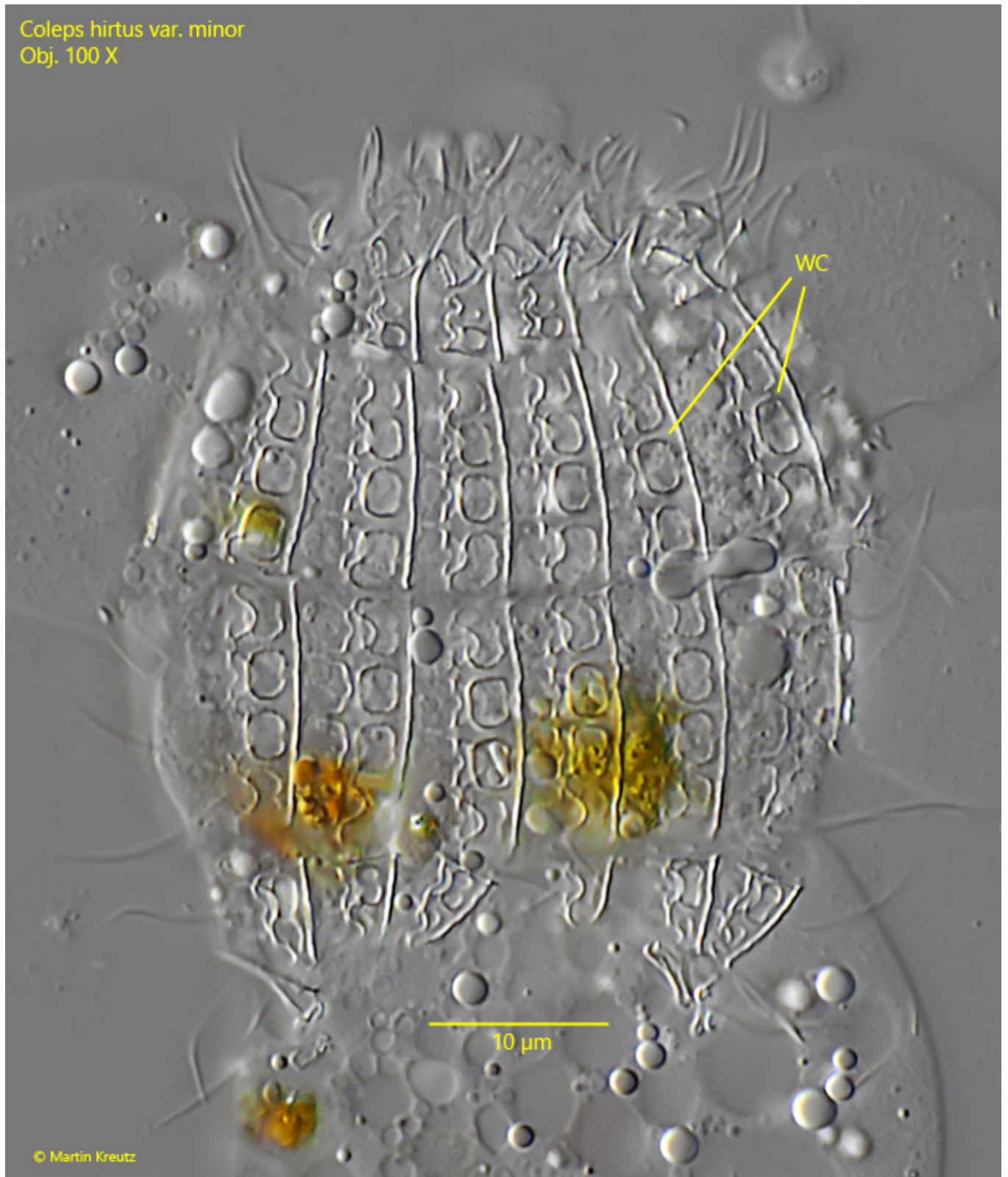


**Fig. 1 a-d:** *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor*. L = 45  $\mu$ m. A freely swimming specimen. Obj. 40 X.



**Fig. 2 a-b:** *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor*. L = 45  $\mu$ m. Two focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. CC = caudal cilium, CV = contractile vacuole, Ma = macronucleus. Obj. 100 X.





**Fig. 3:** *Coleps hirtus* var. *minor*. The “windows” of the carapace (WC) are rectangular with rounded corners. Obj. 100 X.