

***Collotheca pelagia* Rousselet, 1893**

Most likely ID: n.a.

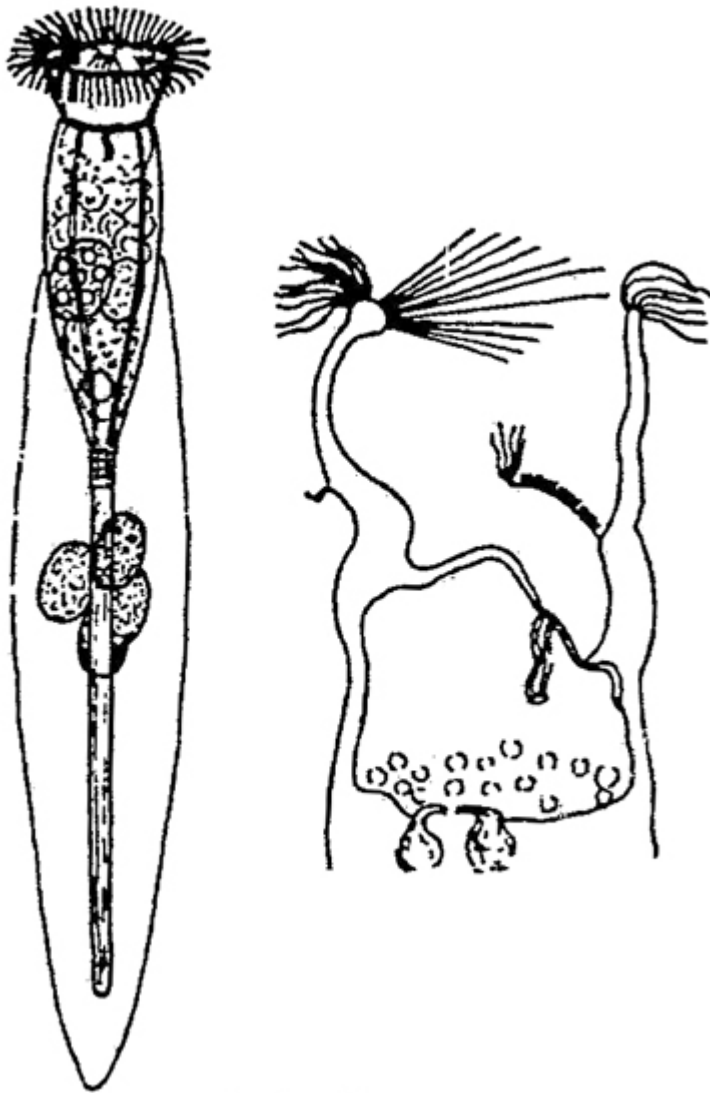
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Lake Constance](#), [Pond the waste disposal company Constance](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Collotheca pelagica](#)

Diagnosis:

- body slender, cylindrical
- corona circular, with short cilia
- corona only slightly wider than body
- foot slender and long, sometimes thickened distal end
- length 300–500 µm
- in a gelatinous case
- eyespot absent
- up to 5 amictic eggs deposited in gelatinous case
- free-swimming, planktonic lifestyle



after Rousselet

Collotheca pelagica

I rarely find *Collotheca pelagica*. So far I have only been able to find this rotifer in the plankton of [Lake Constance](#) and in the [pond of the waste disposal company Constance](#).

Collotheca pelagica is a pelagic rotifer that lives in a self-made gelatinous case. The case extends to about the anterior third of the body. The posterior end of the case is conical and shaped into a blunt tip. The unfertilized, amictic eggs are also deposited in the case. The corona is circular and not lobed, as in other species of the genus *Collotheca*. This makes it easy to distinguish *Collotheca pelagica* from the similar species *Collotheca mutabilis*, which also lives pelagically but has a clearly two-lobed corona. In addition, the corona of *Collotheca pelagica* is only formed by short cilia that appear almost bristle-like.

Further images and information on *Collotheca pelagica*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-Collotheca pelagica](#)

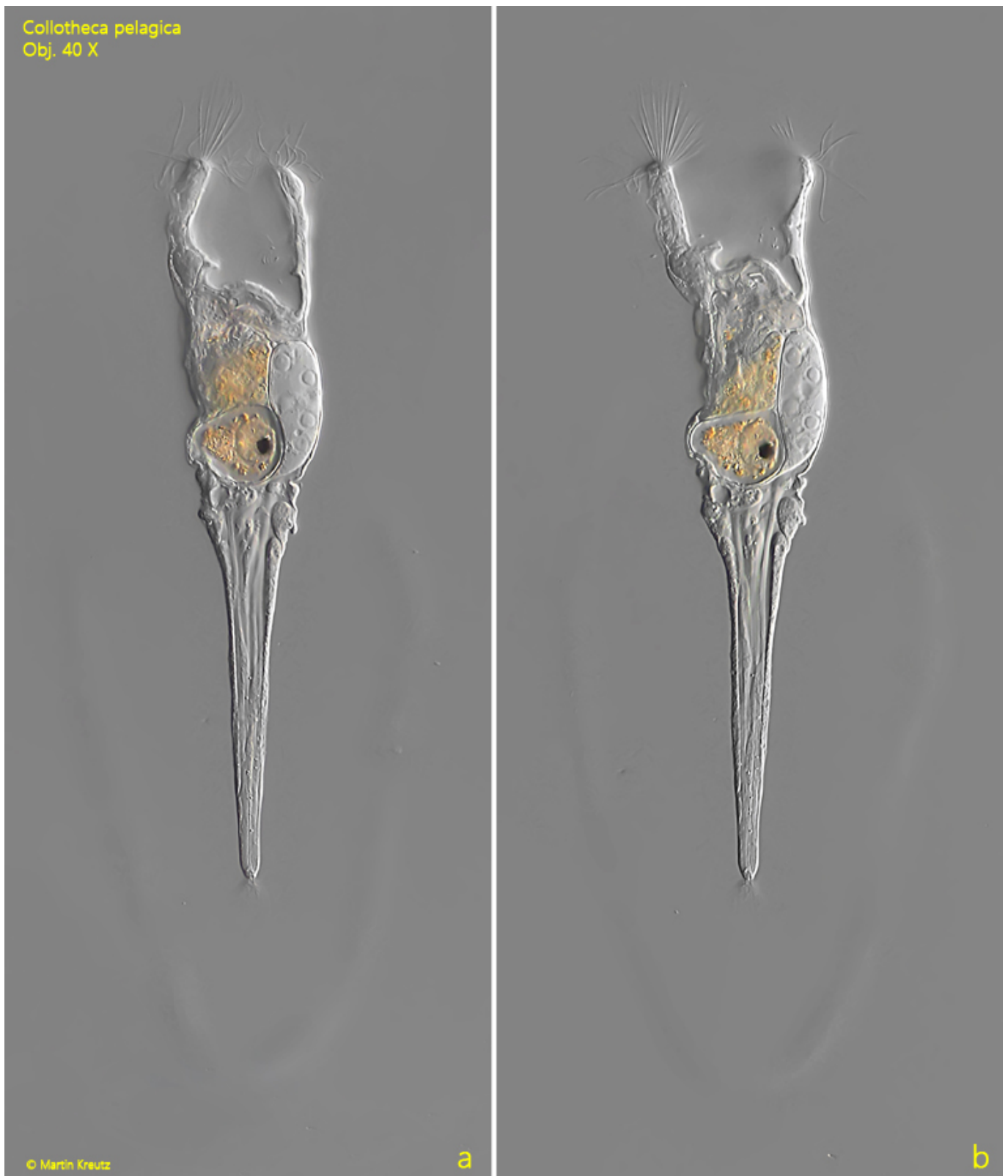


Fig. 1 a-b: *Collotheca pelagica*. L = 220 μ m. A young specimen with a partly contracted (a) and extended corona (b). Obj. 40 X.

Collotheca mutabilis
Obj. 40 X



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Fig. 2: *Collotheca pelagica*. L = 345 μm . An adult specimen with 3 amictic eggs (AE) deposited in the gelatinous case (GC). CO = corona, ST = stomach, Vit = vitellarium. Obj. 40 X.