

Cosmarium reniforme (Ralfs) Archer, 1874

Most likely ID: n.a.

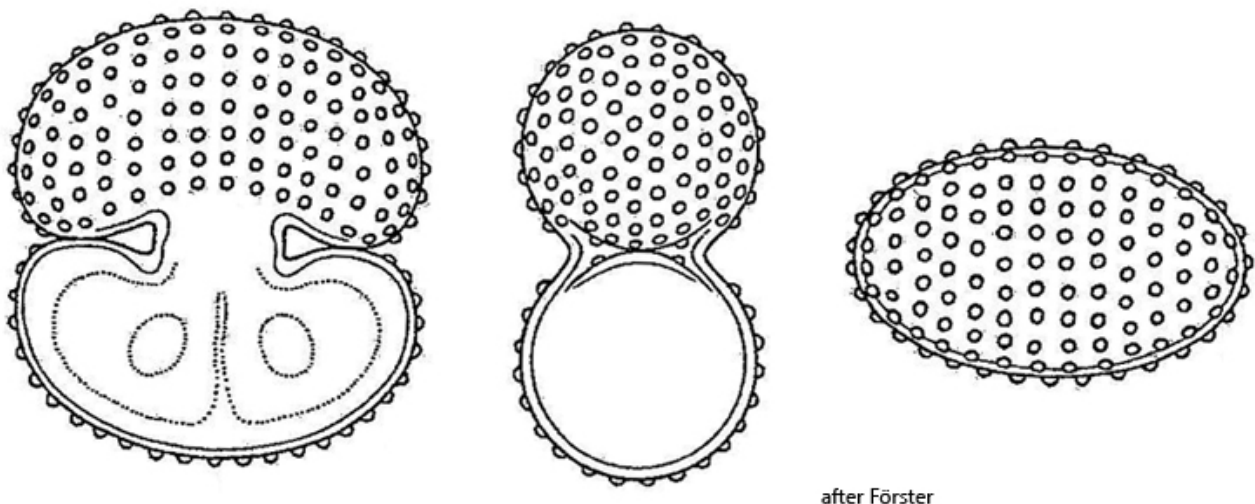
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Schwemm (Austria), [Pond of the convent Hegne](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Cosmarium reniforme](#)

Diagnosis:

- semi-cell kidney-shaped, slight flattened
- cell ellipsoid in apical view
- length 43–74 µm, width 35–62
- cell wall covered with round granules, about 30–33 per semi-cell
- two pyrenoids per semi-cell
- one branched chloroplast per semi-cell
- sinus wide, closed in middle with a hole-like extension in the center



Cosmarium reniforme

Although *Cosmarium reniforme* is described as a very common desmid, I have only found it twice so far. First in June 2004 in the Schwemm moorland in Austria. It was only 20 years later that I found *Cosmarium reniforme* in large numbers in April 2024 in the [pond of the](#)

[convent Hegne](#). The photos shown below are from this population.

The species is very characteristic due to its kidney-shaped semi-cells (s. fig. 1 d) and the regularly arranged, round granules of the cell wall (s. fig. 1 a). These can be arranged in slightly diagonal rows or in vertical rows.

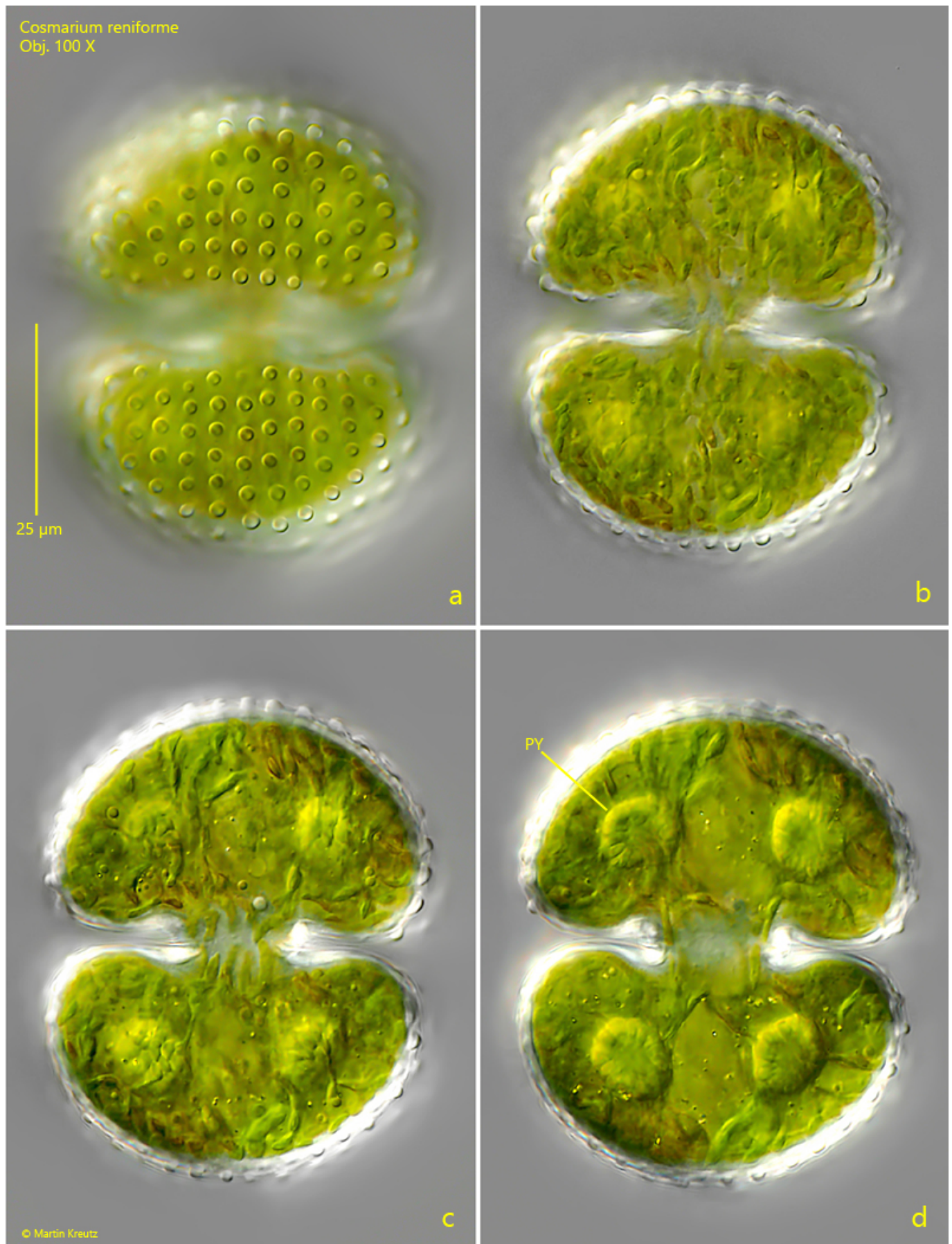


Fig. 1 a-d: *Cosmarium reniforme*. L = 63 µm. Four focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. PY = pyrenoid. Obj. 100 X.