Desmodesmus brasiliensis

(Bohlin) Hegewald, 2000

Most likely ID: n.a.

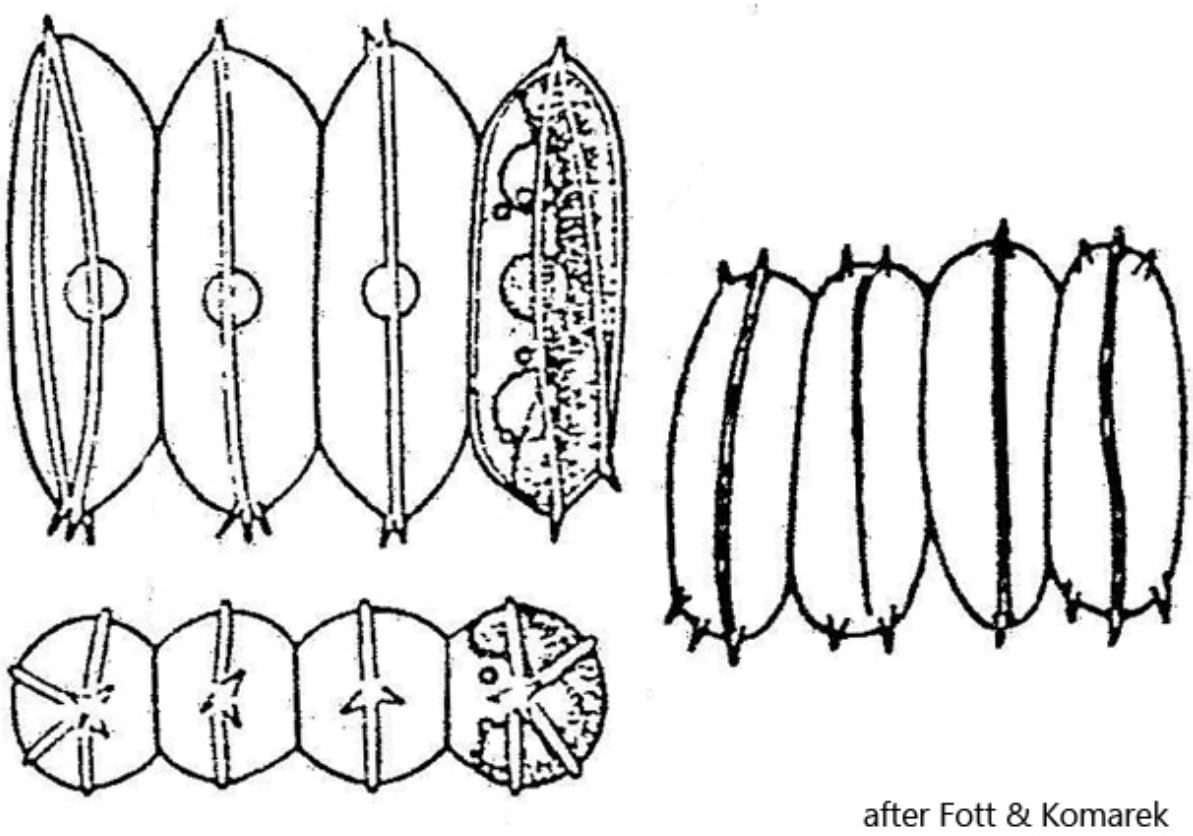
Synonym: *Scenedesmus brasiliensis*

Sampling location: Lake Constance

Phylogenetic tree: *Desmodesmus brasiliensis*

Diagnosis:

- coenobia of (2)–4–(8), linearly arranged cells
- cells elongated oval to cylindrical
- length of cells 9–28 µm, width 2–8.5 µm
- (1)–2–4 longitudinal, continuos ridges per cell (sometimes absent)
- inner and outer cells with short teeth at the apices
- margins of the outer cells smooth
- one pyrenoid per cell



Desmodesmus brasiliensis

Desmodesmus brasiliensis was originally described by Bohlin (1897) as *Scenedesmus brasiliensis*, but was transferred to the genus *Desmodesmus* by Hegewald in 2000.

I have found *Desmodesmus brasiliensis* in the plankton of Lake Constance in July 1994. The main characteristics of *Desmodesmus brasiliensis* are the short teeth at the apices (s. fig. 1 a) and the continuous ridges along the lateral sides of the cells (s. fig. 1 b).

The very similar species *Desmodesmus lefevrei* (synonym = *Scenedesmus lefevrei*) can be distinguished from *Desmodesmus brasiliensis* by a fringe of small teeth at the margins of the outer cells (s. Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-*Scenedesmus lefevrei*).

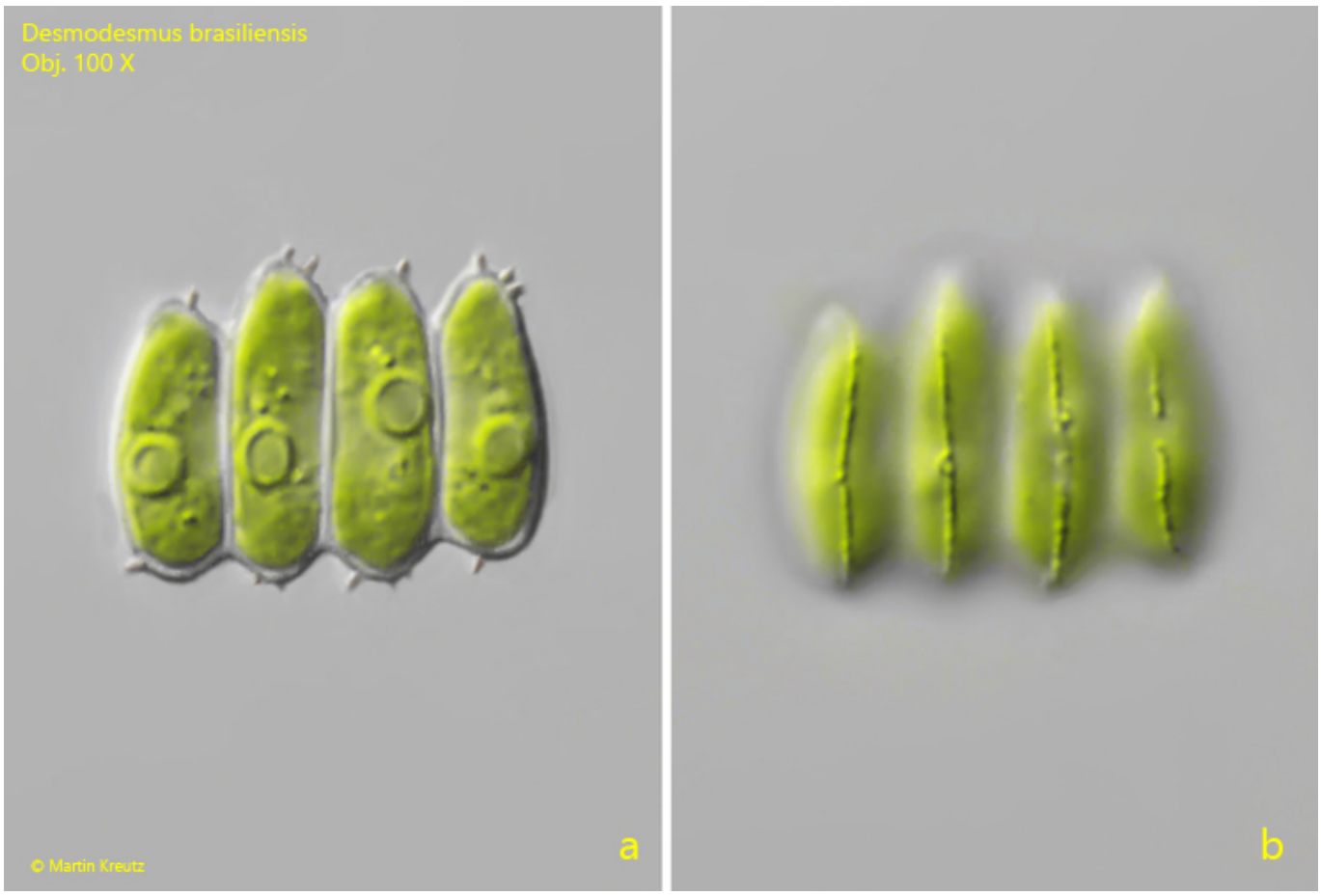


Fig. 1 a-b: *Desmodesmus brasiliensis*. L = 19 µm (of coenobium). Two focal planes of a coenobium of 4 cells. Note the short teeth at the apices of the cells (a) and the continuous ridges on the sides of the cells (b). Obj. 100 X.