Distigma sennii Pringsheim, 1942

Most likely ID: n.a.

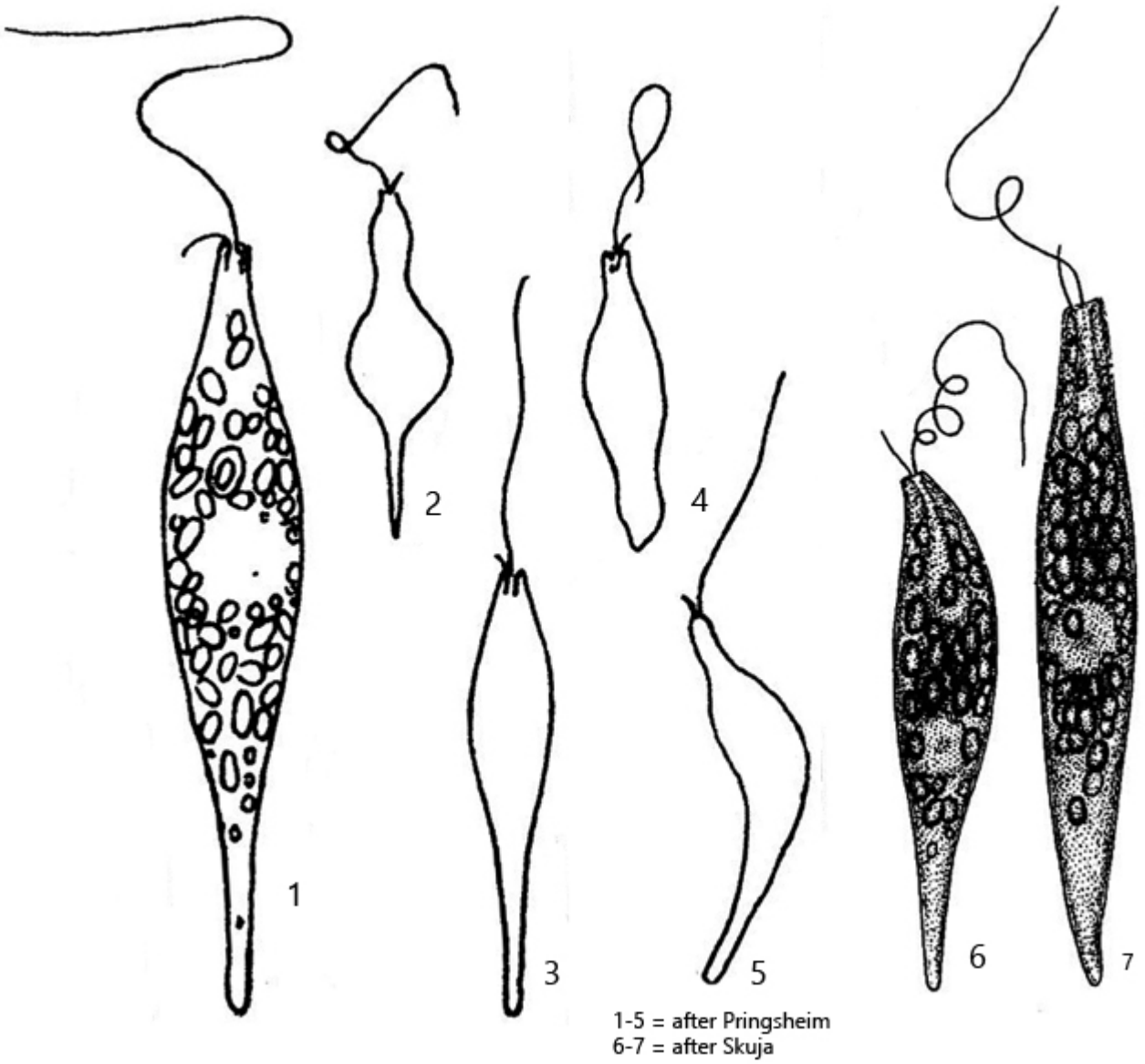
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: *Distigma sennii*

Diagnosis:

- cell club-shaped, tapering towards posterior end
- anterior end truncated
- often bent, posterior end forms rounded tip
- length 45–68 µm
- long flagellum about two thirds of cell length
- short flagellum about one tenth of cell length
- nucleus central with a central nucleolus
- striation of pellicle fine, hard to see
- euglenoid movement reduced



Distigma sennii

I found *Distigma sennii* in August 2010 in the Simmelried. After that I have no further records. But perhaps I have often overlooked the species because the second, short flagellum, which characterizes the genus *Distigma*, can only be seen at high magnification.

The classification as *Distigma sennii* is based on the truncated anterior end, the length of the cells of about 50 µm and the conical body shape with a tapered posterior end. It can therefore not be *Distigma proteus*. This species is about twice as long and has a pronounced striation of the pellicle. *Distigma globiferum* is smaller and the mid-body is clearly enlarged due to a very large nucleus. A further alternative would be *Distigma elegans*. This species is about the same length and also has a truncated anterior end, but is described to have a very strong euglenoid movement.

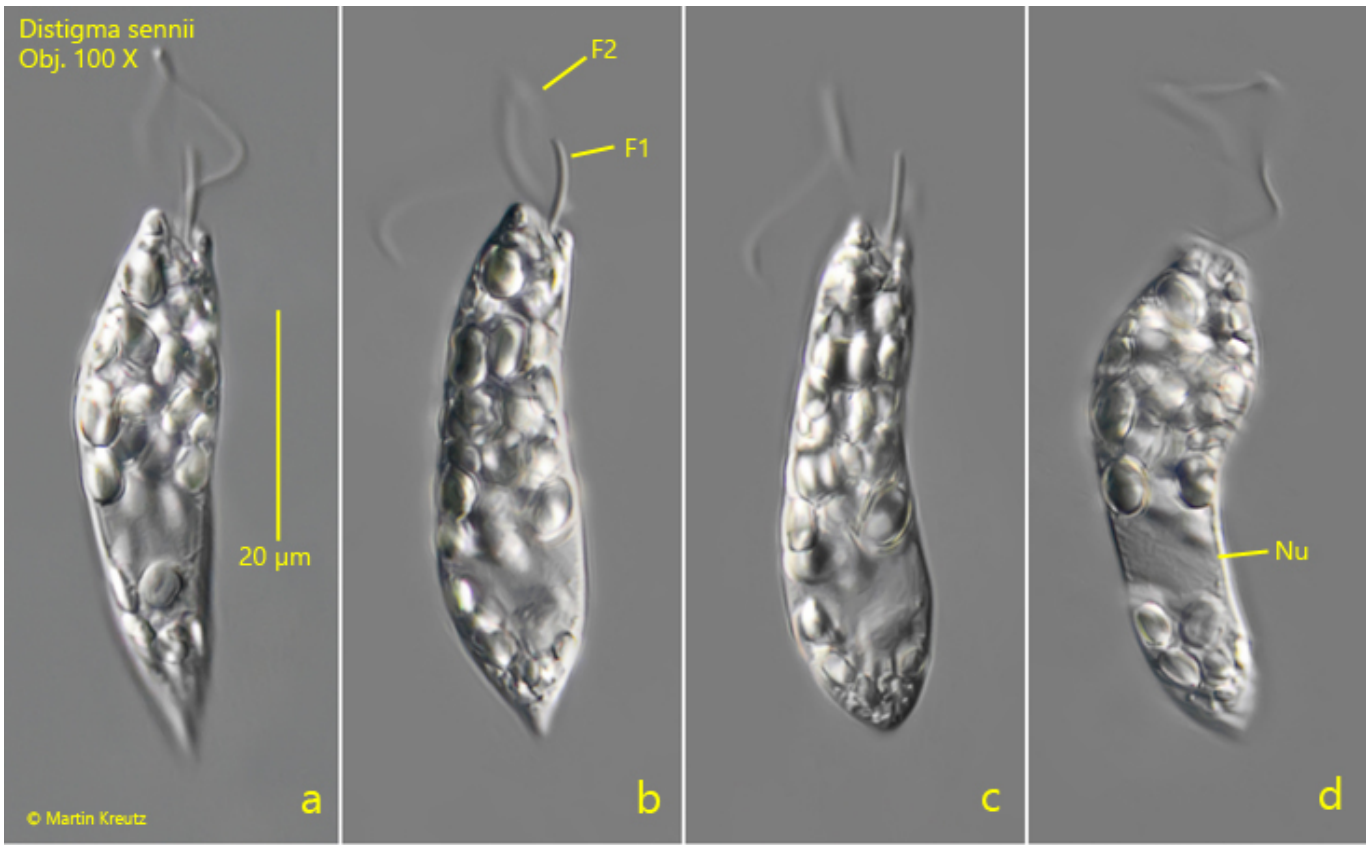


Fig. 1 a-d: *Distigma sennii*. L = 47 µm. Different phases of the euglenoid movement of a freely swimming specimen. Note the two flagella of different length (F1, F2) and the truncated anterior end. Nu = nucleus. Obj. 100 X.

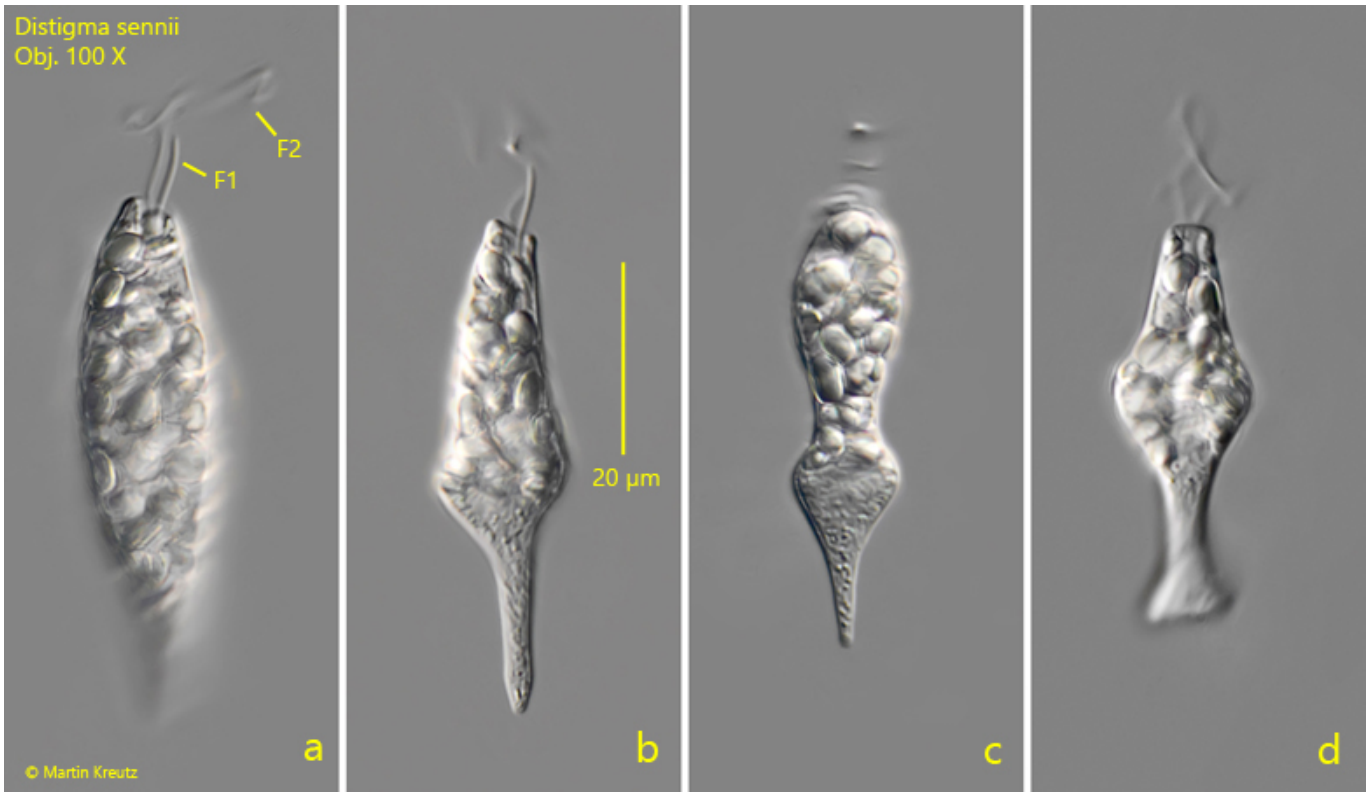


Fig. 2 a-d: *Distigma sennii*. L = 54 µm. A second specimen during euglenoid

movement. Obj. 100 X.