Ditrema mikrous De Saedeleer, 1934

Most likely ID: n.a.

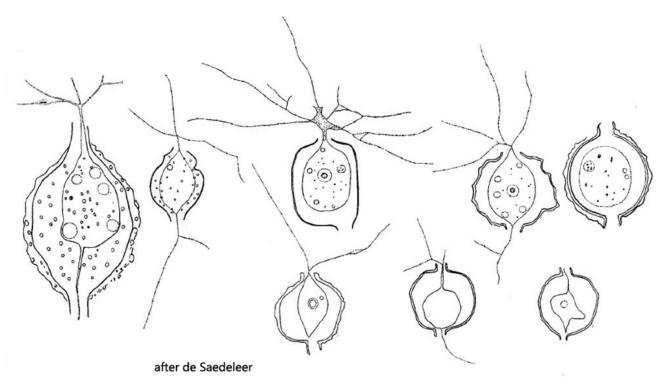
Synonym: n. a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: n.a.

Diagnosis:

- shell hyaline, thin, without xenosomes, sometimes covered with brownish crust
- in frontal view spherical or oval, sometimes irregular or angular
- in lateral view dome-shaped
- shell with two opposite necks
- length of shell (including necks) $9.3-13.6 \mu m$
- diameter of necks 1.7-2 µm
- protoplast fills shell not completely
- granulofilopodia form a dichotomously branched and anastomosing network
- nucleus central, with a single nucleolus
- several contractile vacuoles



Ditrema mikrous

So far I could detect *Ditrema mikrous* only in the <u>Simmelried</u>. Like the similar species Ditrema longicollis, Ditrema mikrous likes to settle on floating coverslips. I could observe both species in parallel on the same coverslips. The main distinguishing feature from <u>Ditrema longicollis</u> is the size. According to De Saedeleer, 1934 (s. <u>literature</u>) Ditrema mikrous with 9.3-13.6 µm length (including the necks) is only half the size of <u>Ditrema</u> longicollis. I can confirm these size differences. In my population the length of the specimens was 12.3-13.9 µm which agrees well with the data of De Saedeleer. I could also observe that the shells of some specimens were covered with a brownish crust (s. fig. 4). This was different from the orange-brown or brown coloration caused by iron deposits that occur in *Ditrema longicollis*. Since I have not find any *Ditrema* shells with a length of 14-23 µm (i.e., the gap between the size range of *Ditrema mikrous* and *Ditrema longicollis*), Ditrema mikrous cannot be a smaller variant of <u>Ditrema longicollis</u>, confirming De Saedeleer's delimitation.

More images and information of *Ditrema mikrous*: Ferry Siemensma-Microworld-*Ditrema* mikrous

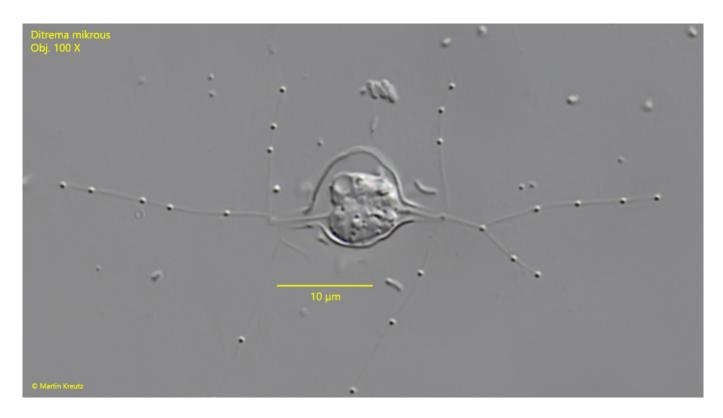


Fig. 1: Ditrema mikrous. L = $13.9 \mu m$ (including necks). A partly extended specimen with an irregularly shaped shell. Obj. 100 X.

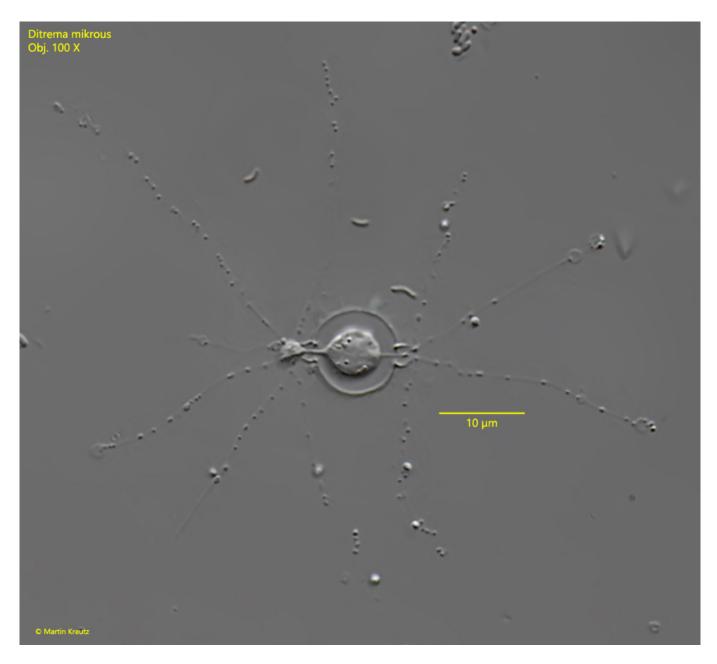


Fig. 2: Ditrema mikrous. L = $12.2 \mu m$ (including necks). A partly extended specimen with a spherical, hyaline shell. Obj. $100\ X$.

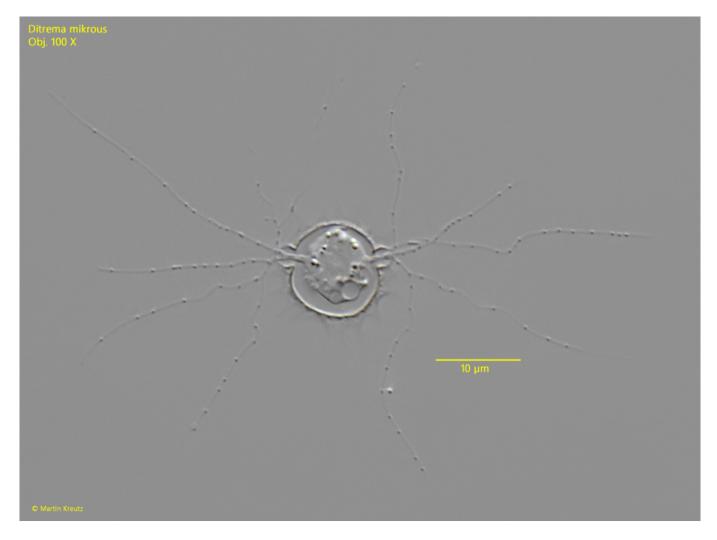


Fig. 3: Ditrema mikrous. L = $12.0 \ \mu m$ (including necks). A fully extended specimen with a slightly brownish shell. Obj. 100 X.

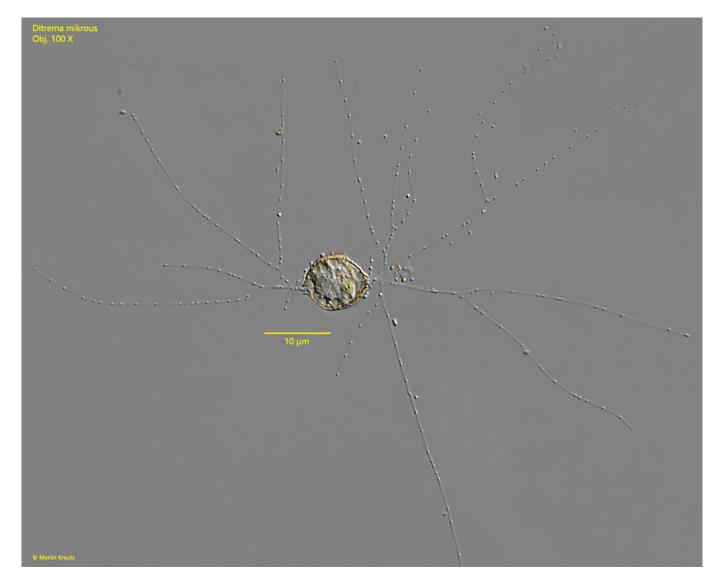


Fig. 4: Ditrema mikrous. $L=12.4~\mu m$ (including necks). A fully extended specimen with a broad oval shell covered with a brownish crust. Obj. 100 X.