

***Epalkella striata***

**(Kahl, 1926) Corliss, 1960**

**Most likely ID:** n.a.

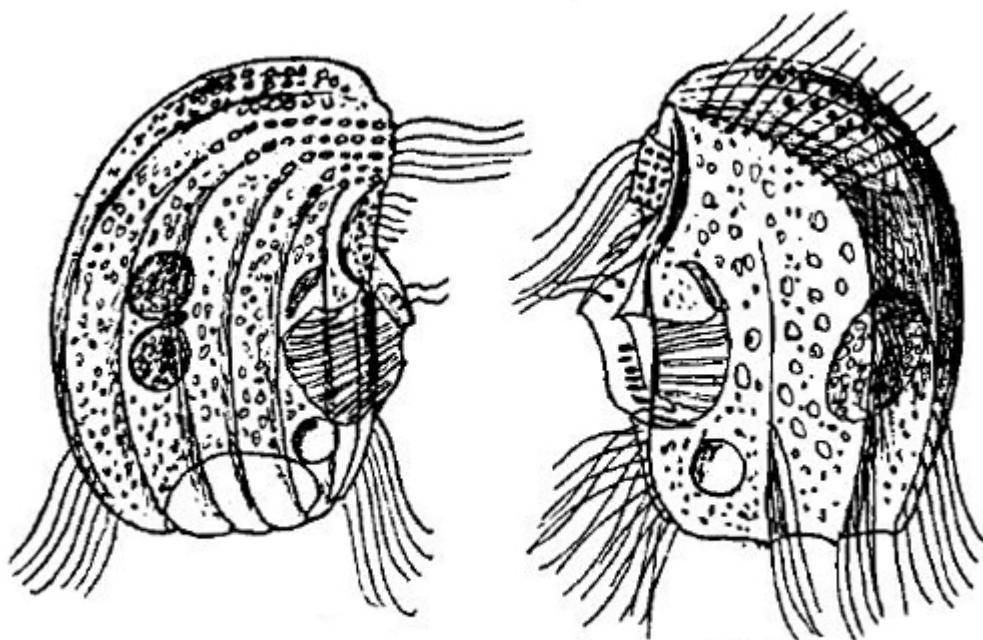
**Synonym:** *Epalkis striata*

**Sampling location:** [Simmelried](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [\*Epalkella striata\*](#)

**Diagnosis:**

- length 40–50 µm
- body oval or ellipsoidal
- posteriorly a deep hollow indentation
- no posterior spines
- no ventral spine
- right side convex with 7 longitudinal ridges
- left side flat with 3 longitudinal ridges
- 1-2 macronuclei and 1-2 micronuclei
- perizonal stripe consisting of 7 rows

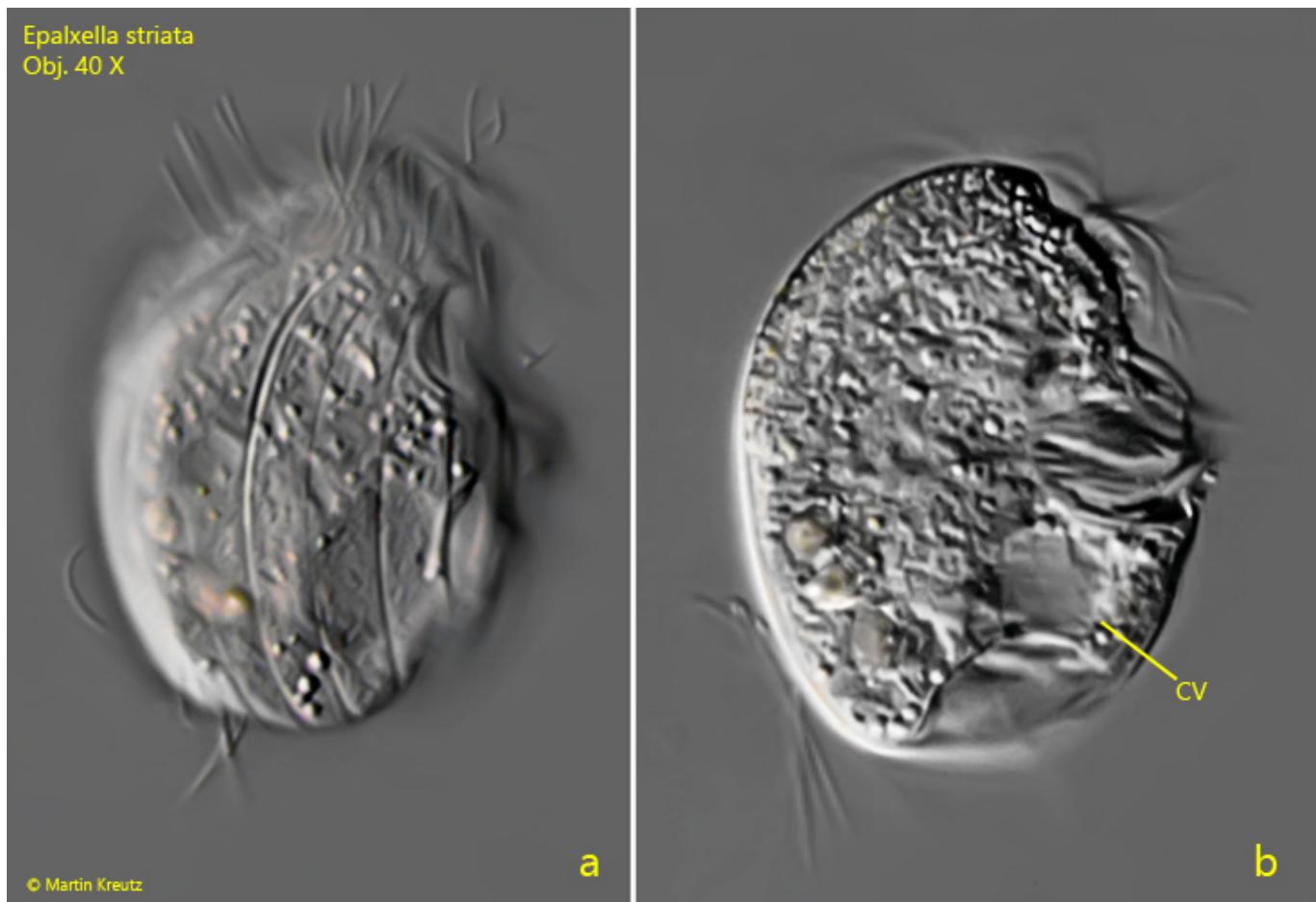


after Kahl

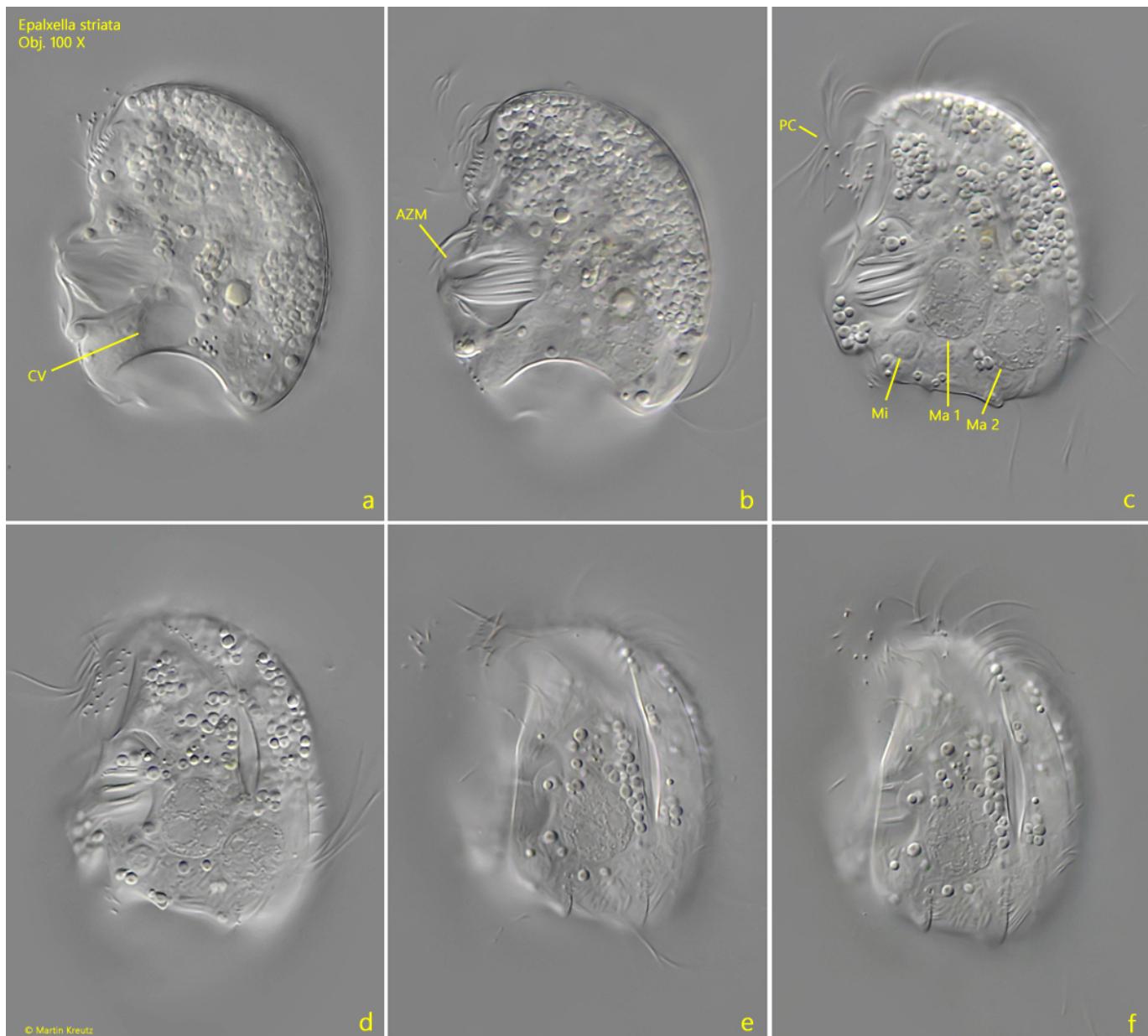
### *Epalxella striata*

Kahl described the odontostomatid ciliate *Epalxella striata* to be frequent in occurrence. However, in my sampling area [Simmelried](#) I have found this species only very rarely. In 1995 I found a specimen in the uppermost mud layer. At that time I could document the right side (s. fig. 1a-b). It was not until 25 years later that I found a second specimen in 2020 to photograph the left side (s. fig. 2 a-f) and an ventral view (s. fig. 3 a-c). Since then I have not found further specimens.

A characteristic feature of *Epalxella striata* are the protrusions of the pellicle on the left side, where the longitudinal ridges meet the posterior margin. This gives the impression that the pellicle is folded at the posterior margin (s. fig. 2 e and 2 f).



**Fig. 1 a-b:** *Epalxella striata*. L = 28  $\mu$ m. Lateral view from the right side. CV = contractile vacuole. Obj. 40 X.



**Fig. 2 a-f:** *Epalkella striata*. L = 42  $\mu$ m. Different focal planes from left. AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, Ma 1 + Ma 2= macronuclei, Mi = micronucleus, PC = perizonal cilia row. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 3 a-c:** *Epalexella striata*. L = 50  $\mu$ m. Different focal planes from ventral of a freely swimming specimen. AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, CV = contractile vacuole, Ma = macronucleus, PC = perizonal cilia row. Obj. 100 X.