Hexarthra mira (Hudson, 1871)

Most likely ID: n.a.

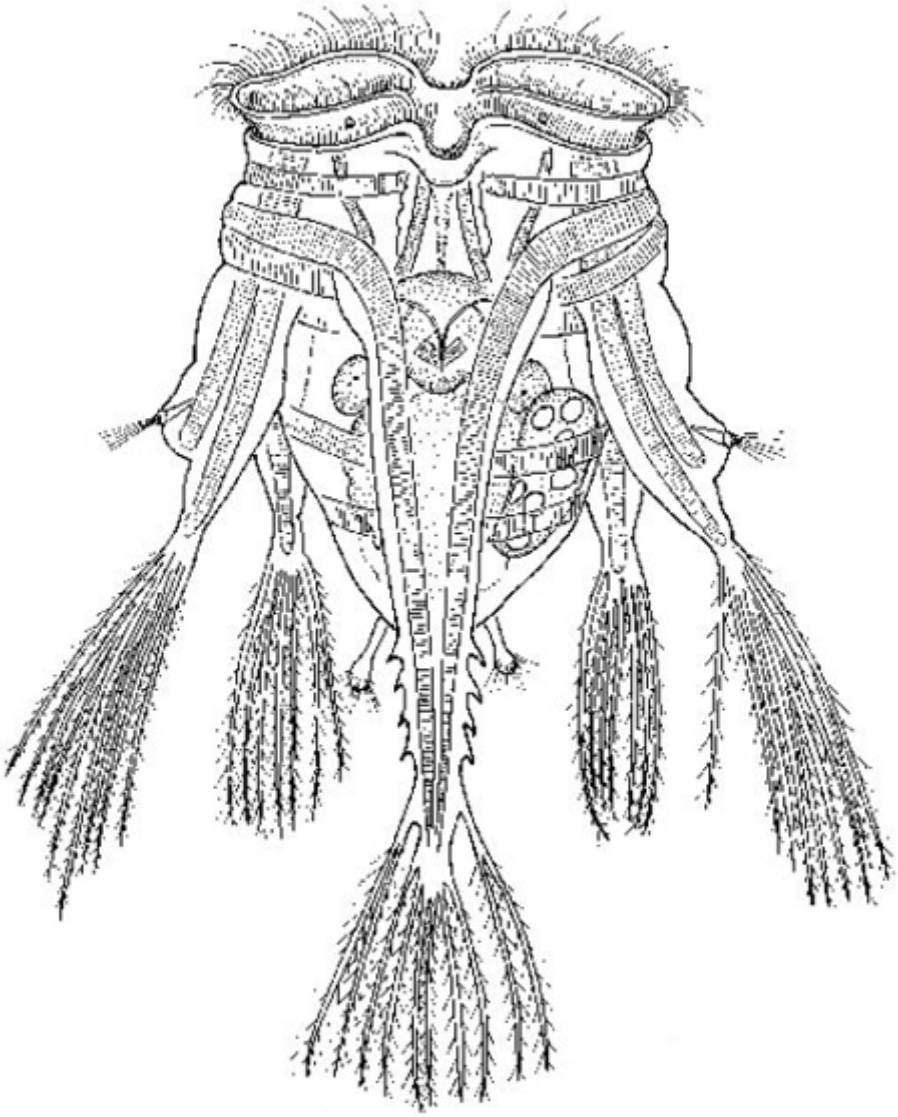
Synonym: *Pedalia mira*

Sampling location: Lake Constance, Hagstaffel pond, Mühlhalden pond, Pond of the waste disposal company Constance

Phylogenetic tree: ***Hexarthra mira***

Diagnosis:

- body cone- or bell-shaped
- length 160–400 µm
- six arm-like rudders with delicately feathered bristles
- two eyespots
- two cylindrical appendages with cilia at distal end
- rotatory organ almost 8-shaped in apical view with inner and outer ciliated rim
- planktonic lifestyle



after Koste

Hexarthra mira

Hexarthra mira is a planktonic rotifer with a very complex shape. With the help of its 6 arms, which are all moved by strong muscles, it can perform fast jumps. Very often I find *Hexarthra mira* in the pond of the waste disposal company Constance, although it is heavily eutrophicated and has a high fish stocking. At the same time *Hexarthra* is also present in Lake Constance, which has drinking water quality. So the demands regarding water quality do not seem to be very high.

More images and information on *Hexarthra mira*: Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-*Hexarthra mira*

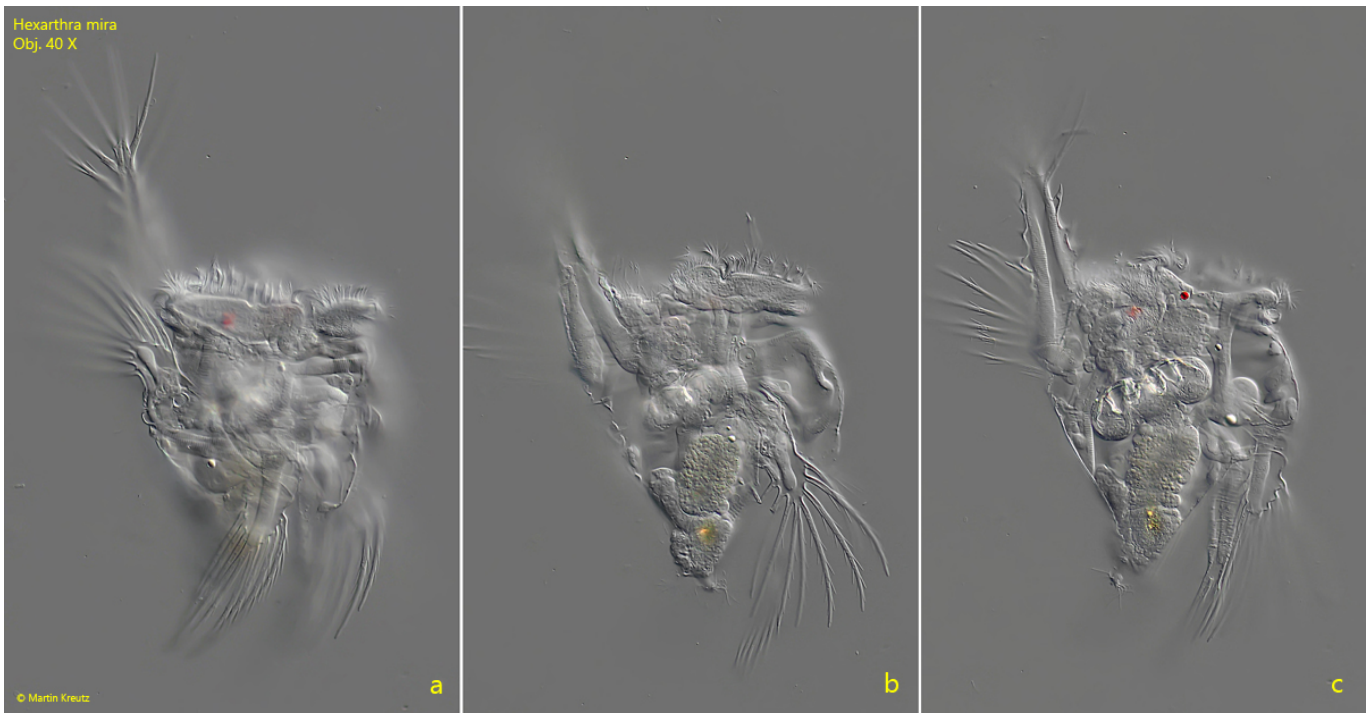


Fig. 1 a-c: *Hexarthra mira*. L = 200 µm (with arms). Different focal planes of a freely swimming specimen. Obj. 40 X.

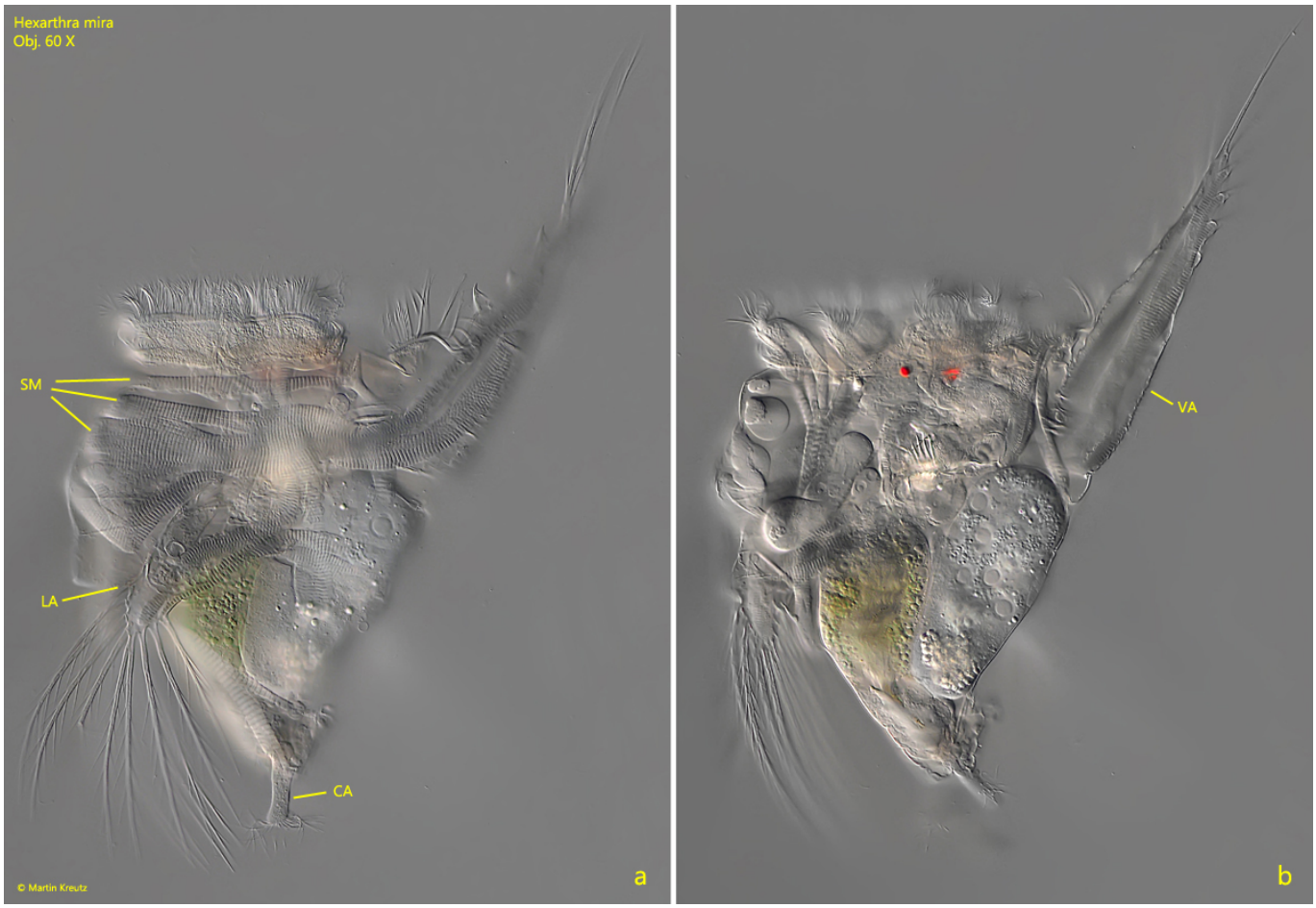


Fig. 2 a-b: *Hexarthra mira*. L = 200 µm (with arms). Two focal planes of a lateral view from right. Note the complex arrangement of striated muscles (SM) to move the arms and the

appendages with a tuft of cilia (CA) at the distal end. LA = lateral arm, VA = ventral arm. Obj. 60 X.

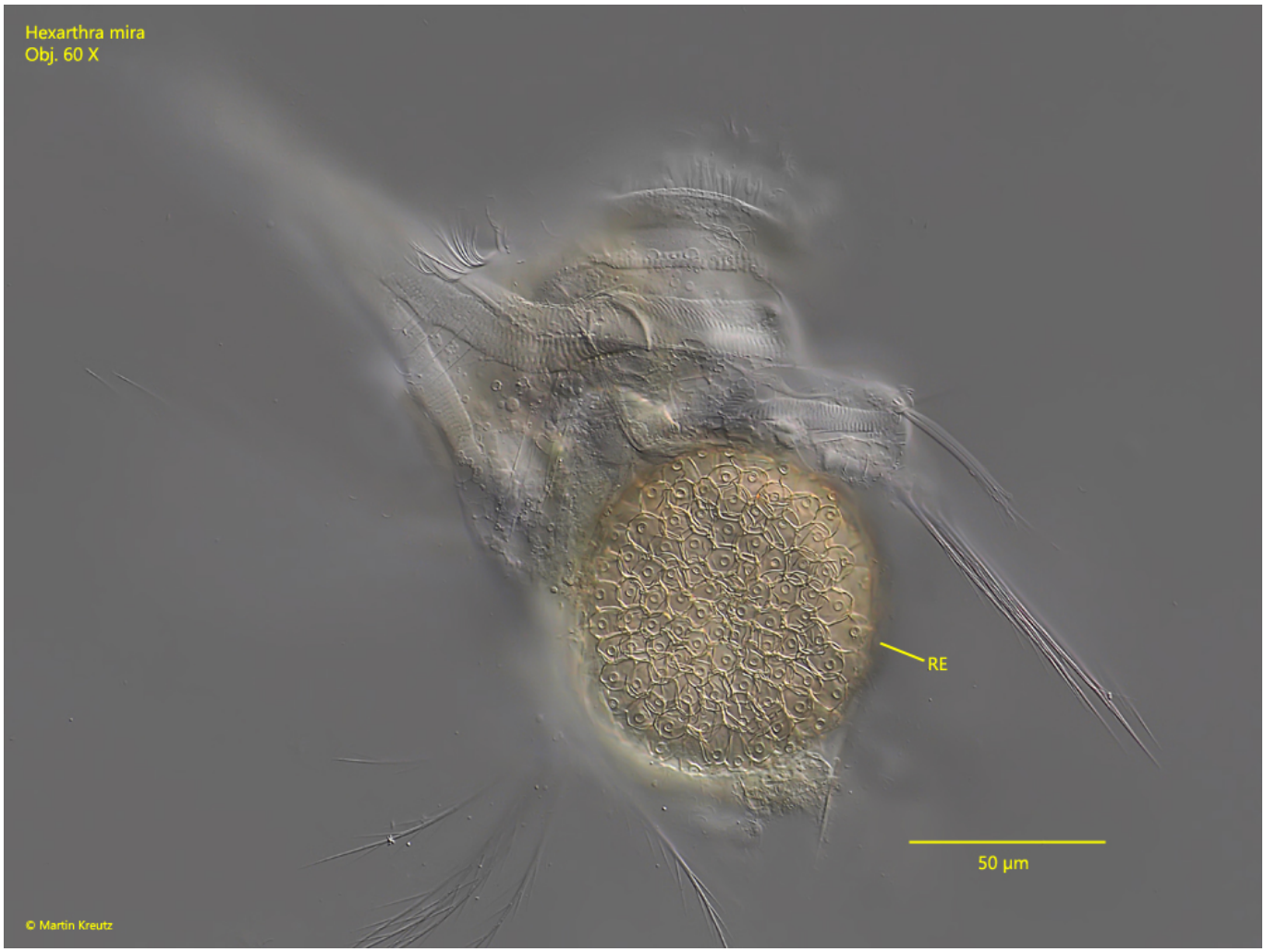


Fig. 3: *Hexarthra mira*. A specimen with a brownish resting egg (RE). The surface of the resting egg is covered with short tubes. Obj. 60 X.