Kerona pediculus

(Müller, 1773) Müller, 1786

Most likely ID: n.a.

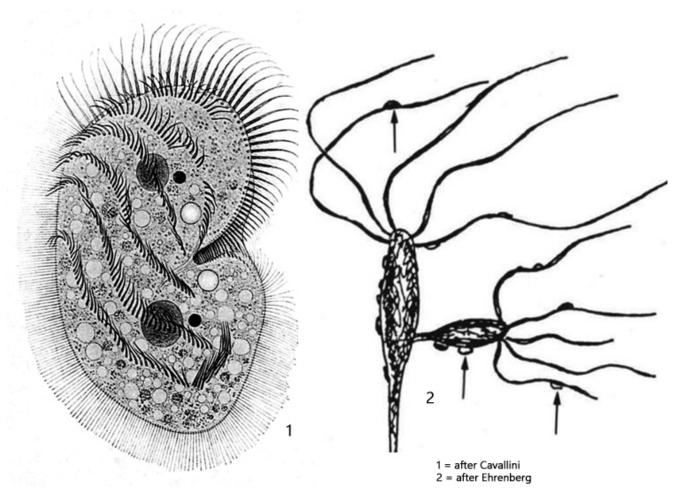
Synonym: Kerona polyporum

Sampling location: Pond of the waste disposal company Constance

Phylogenetic tree: Kerona pediculus

Diagnosis:

- body kidney-shaped, dorso-ventrally flattened
- length 130-205 μm
- adoral zone about 50 % of body length
- two ellipsoidal macronuclei
- each macronucleus with a spherical micronucleus, clearly separated
- contractile vacuole on left margin, below mouth
- 6 slightly curved frontoventral rows of cirri
- 4-6 buccal cirri
- 5 transverse cirri
- 3 caudal cirri



Kerona pediculus

Kerona pediculus is an ectocommensal ciliate, living on various Hydra species, and creeps on them rapidly. The species is feeding on algae and ectodermal cells from *Hydra*.

Because it lives on Hydra, Kerona pediculus cannot be confused with any other species. The body is kidney-shaped and has a complicated ciliature. However, the diagonal rows of frontoventral cirri and the transvers cirri are easily recognizable (s. fig. 1 b). The three caudal cirri are difficult to recognize and I was also unable to clearly identify the buccal cirri.

Kerona pediculus has two ellipsoidal macronuclei. Each macronucleus is associated with a spherical micronucleus, which is clearly separated from the macronucleus (s. fig. 2 b). The adoral zone extends approximately to the middle of the body (s. fig. 2 a).

More images and information on Kerona pediculus: closterium mysterium-iNaturalist-Kerona pediculus

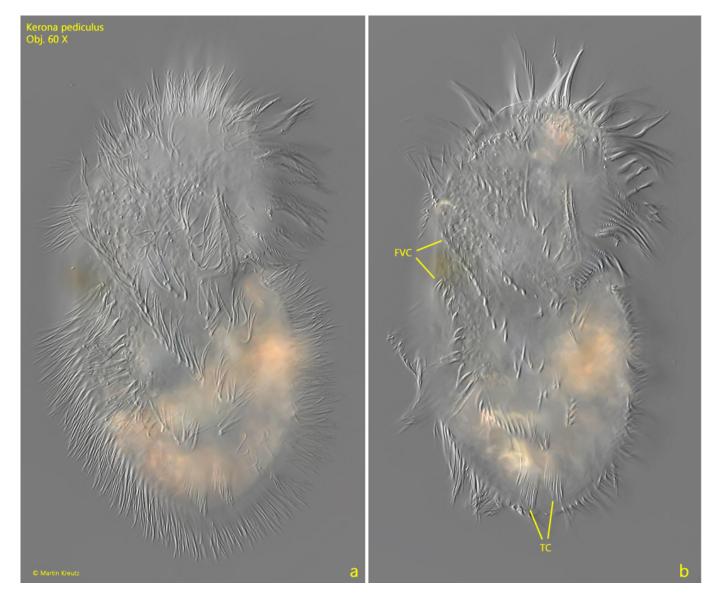


Fig. 1 a-b: Kerona pediculus. L = 134 μm . Two focal planes from ventral. The diagonal running frontoventral cirri (FVC) are visible as well as two of the 5 transverse cirri (TC). Obj. 60 X.

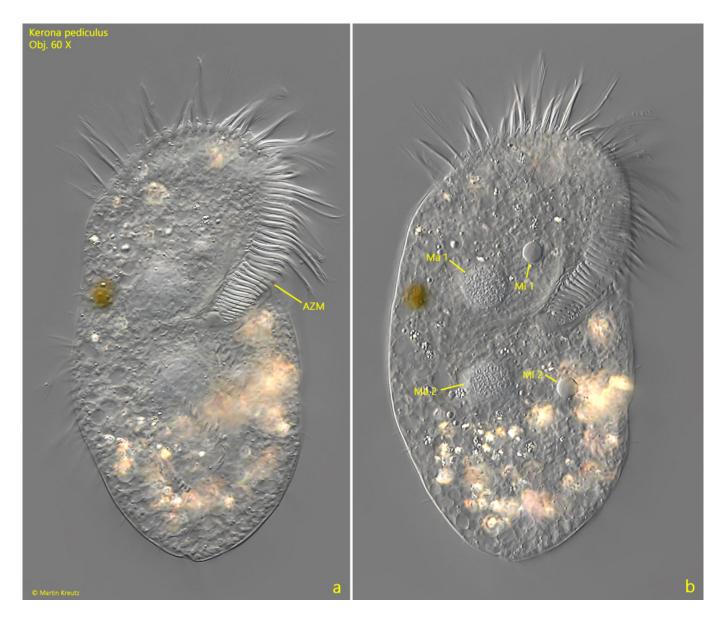


Fig. 2 a-b: Kerona pediculus. L = 134 μm . Focal plane on the adoral zone of membranelles (AZM) and the two macronuclei (Ma 1, Ma 2) with two, clearly separated micronuclei (Mi 1, Mi 2). Obj. 60 X.