Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana

Conrad, 1935

Most likely ID: n.a.

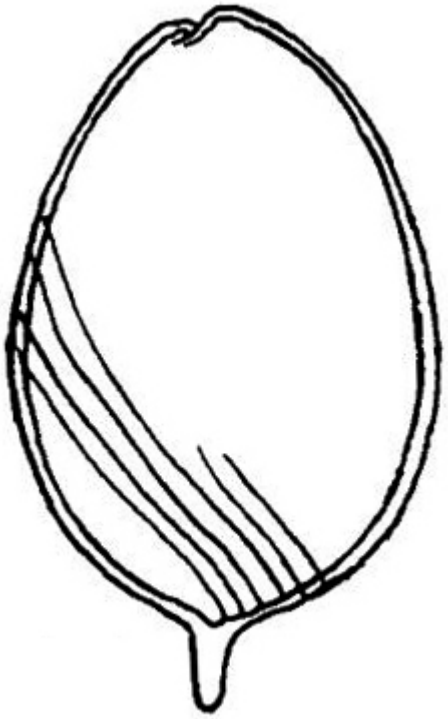
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: *Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana*

Diagnosis:

- cell ovate with caudal process
- length about 34–62 µm, width 22–38 µm
- apical pole asymmetric, subapical pharynx
- eyespot large
- flagellum 1–3 times body length
- spirally striated pellicle, counterclockwise
- numerous discoidal or angular chloroplasts, pyrenoids absent
- paramylon grains discoid or elliptic



Lepocinclis texta var. richardiana

So far I have only found *Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana* in the Simmelried. The variety differs from the parent form *Lepocinclis texta* by the caudal spine, which is about 4–6 µm long.

A characteristic feature of *Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana*, apart from the caudal spine, is the subapical pharynx from which the flagellum emerges (s. fig. 1 a). The paramylon grains are never ring-shaped in this species and the spiral striation of the pellicle always runs counterclockwise (s. fig. 2 b).

Huber-Pestalozzi (1955) points out that the name given to this variety by Conrad refers to Florence Rich (not Richard). Therefore, the correct name should be "*Lepocinclis texta* var. *richiana*", which Conrad actually gave originally, but which did not catch on.

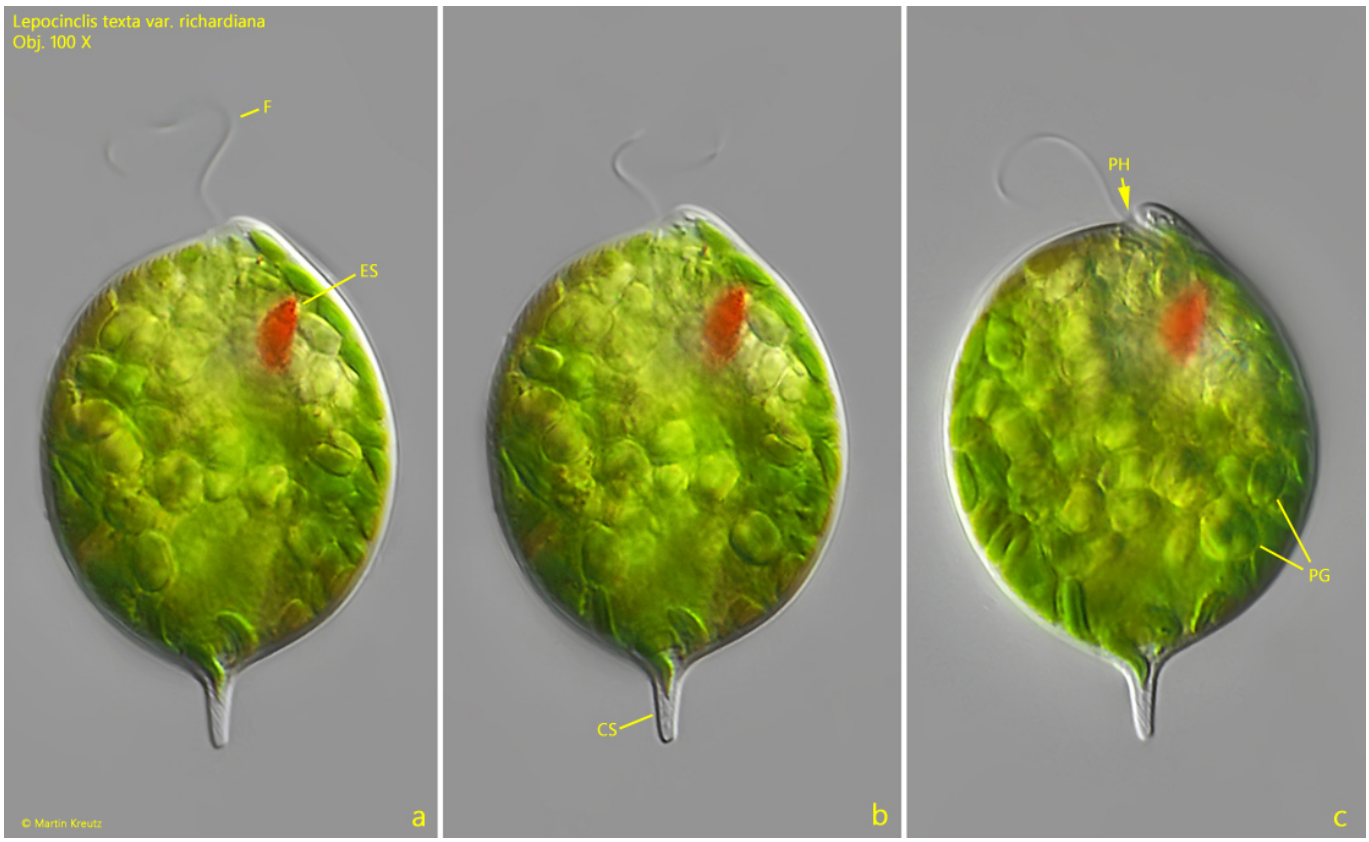


Fig. 1 a-c: *Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana.* L = 43 µm. Slightly different focal planes of a freely swimming specimen. Note the subapical pharynx (PH). ES = exespot, F = flagellum, PG = paramylon grains. Obj. 100 X.

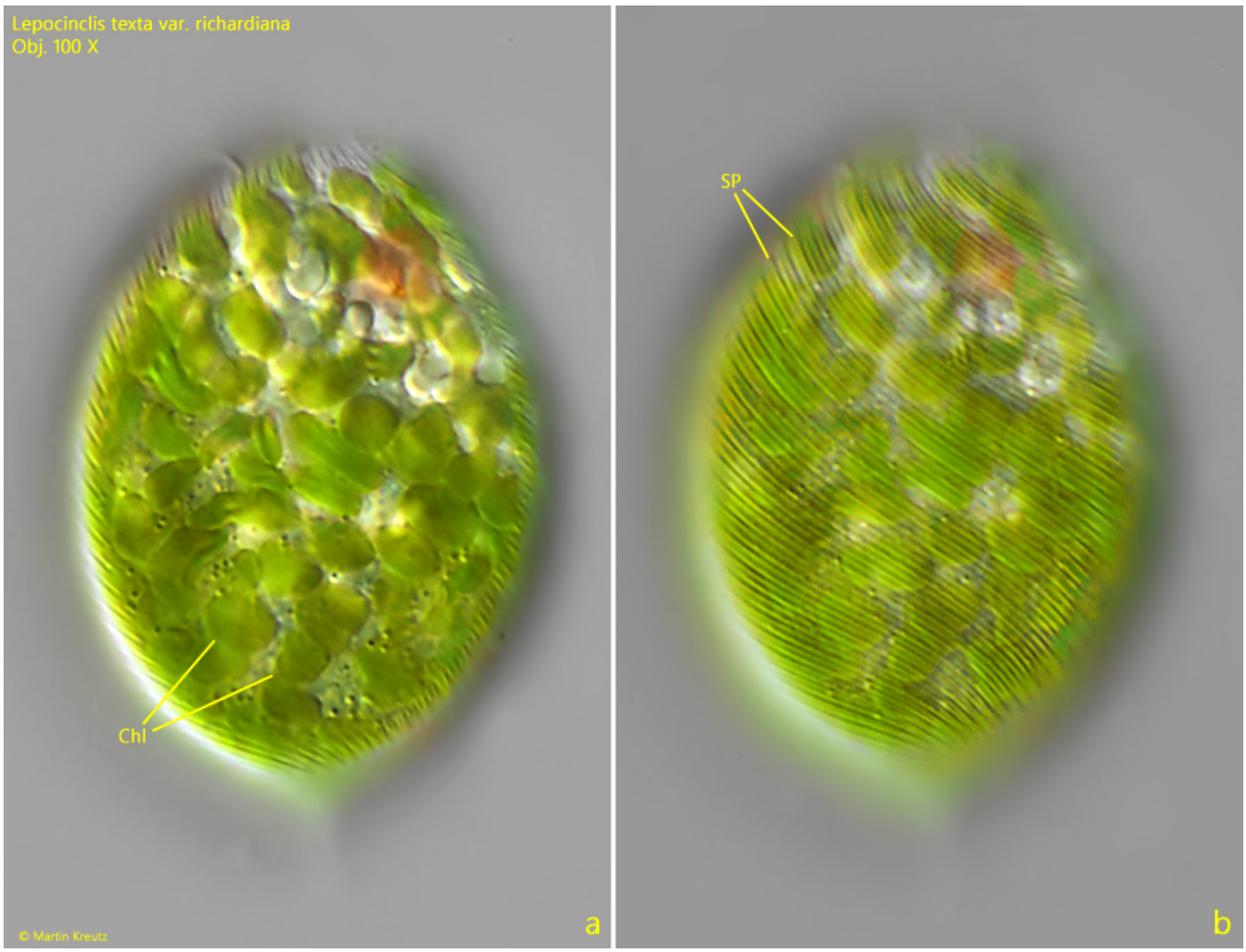


Fig. 2 a-b: *Lepocinclis texta* var. *richardiana.* L = 43 µm. Focal plane on the chloroplasts (Chl, a) and the striation of the pellicle (SP, b). The spirally striation runs counterclockwise to the posterior end. Obj. 100 X.