

***Limnias melicerta* Weisse, 1848**

Most likely ID: n.a.

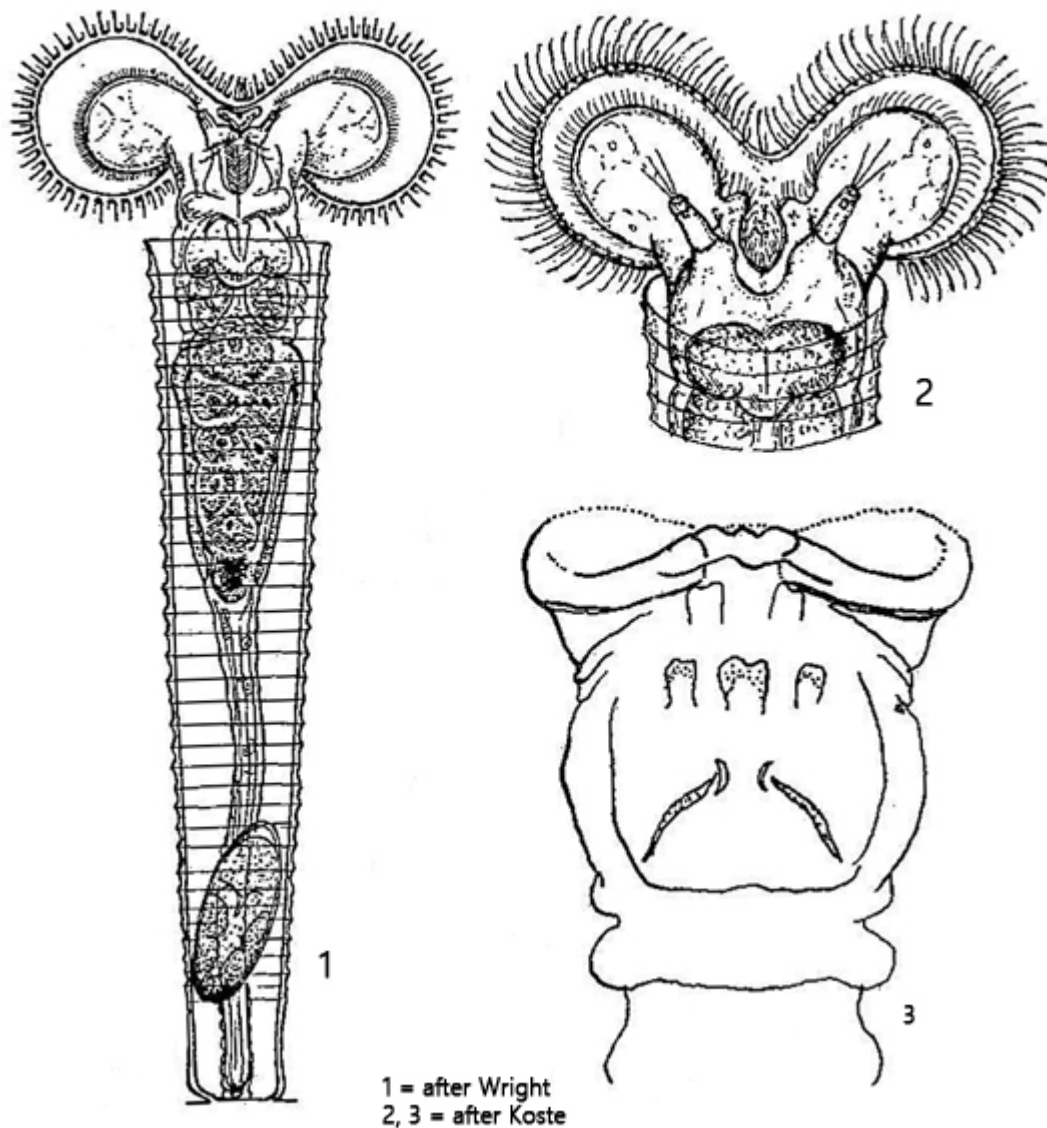
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Limnias melicerta](#)

Diagnosis:

- sessile rotifer in a transparent tube ornamented with rings
- tube commonly orange or brownish, up to 960 µm
- length up to 1540 µm
- corona with 2 lobes with wide dorsal gap
- dorsal antennae short, ventral antennae long
- about 7 horns in the neck region (number variable)
- amictic eggs are deposited in tube
- eyespots absent



Limnias melicerta

So far I have only been able to find *Limnias melicerta* in the [Simmelried](#), where the species is quite rare. I either find the specimens on the leaves of *Utricularia* or (in rare cases) specimens settle on the [floating coverslip](#). According to Voigt (1957), *Limnias melicerta* particularly likes to settle on the underside of water lily leaves.

Limnias melicerta cannot be confused with any other species due to the shape of its self constructed tube. This consists of secretion rings, which are periodically deposited by the rotifer and subsequently harden (s. fig. 3 b). The tube is transparent, flexible and usually orange-brown in color.

The corona consists of two, almost circular lobes with an incision in the middle. On the dorsal side, below the corona, there are usually 7 so-called horns. These are

best recognized on contracted specimens (s. fig. 4). They are characteristic for *Limnias melicerta*.

More images and information on *Limnias melicerta*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-Limnias melicerta](#)

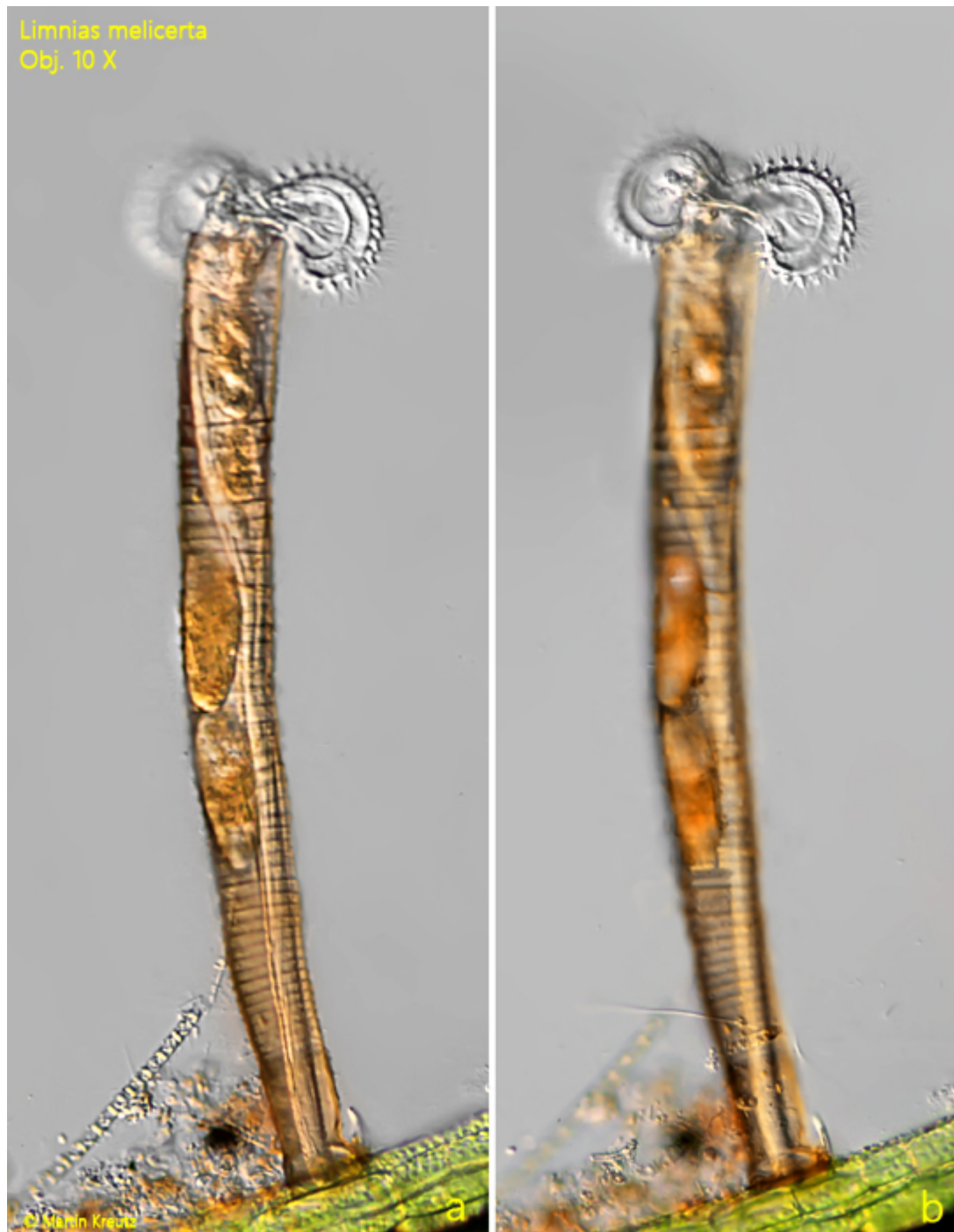


Fig. 1 a-b: *Limnias melicerta*. L = 800 μ m. Two focal planes of a specimen in a orange-brownish tube. Obj. 10 X.



Fig. 2 a-b: *Limnias melicerta*. L = 780 μ m. Two focal planes of a second specimen. Obj. 20 X.

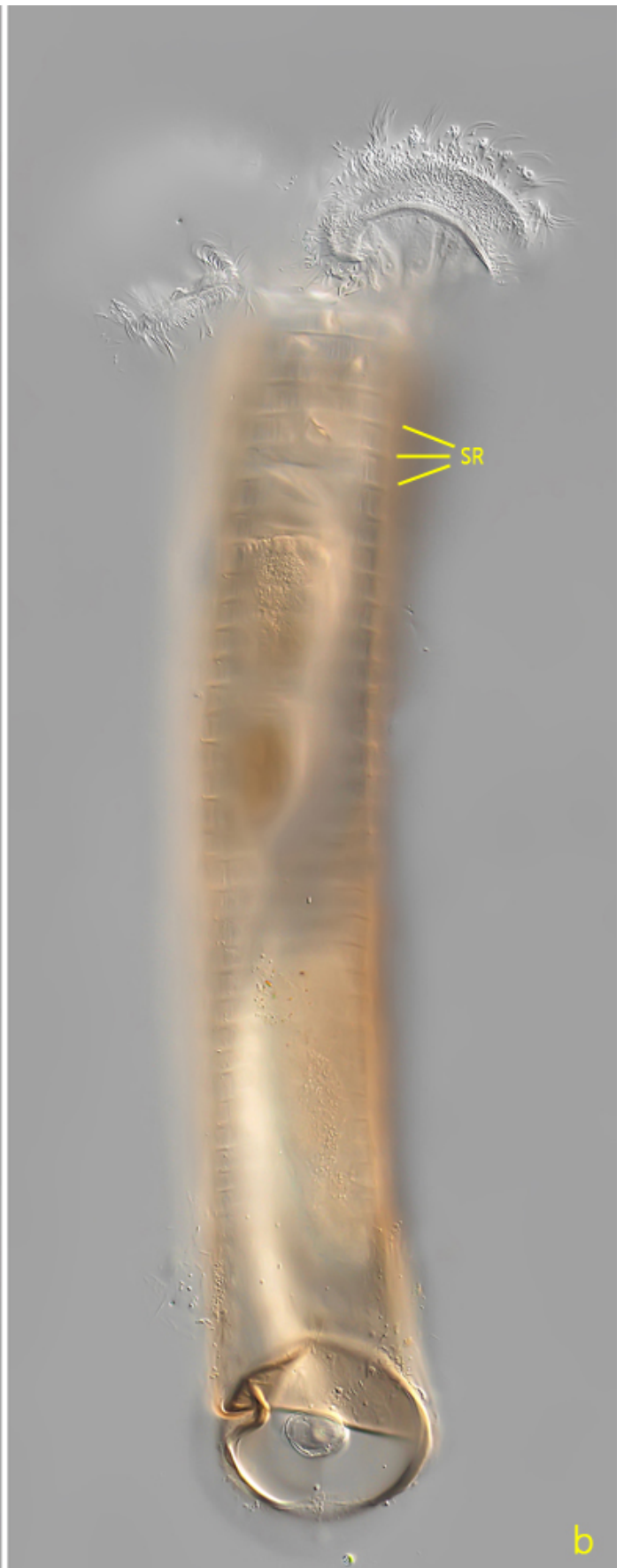


Fig. 3 a-b: *Limnias melicerta*. L = 800 μ m. Two focal planes of slightly squashed specimen. Note the amictic egg (AE) deposited in the tube. SR = secretory rings. Obj. 10 X.



Fig. 4: *Limnias melicerta*. Focal planes on the neck region of a contracted specimen with the seven horns (1-7). Obj. 40 X.



Fig. 5: *Limnias melicerta*. The trophi in a strongly squashed specimen. Obj. 100 X.