

Merismopedia glauca

(Ehrenberg) Nägeli, 1845

Most likely ID: n.a.

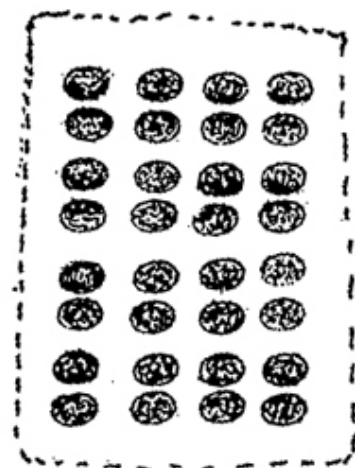
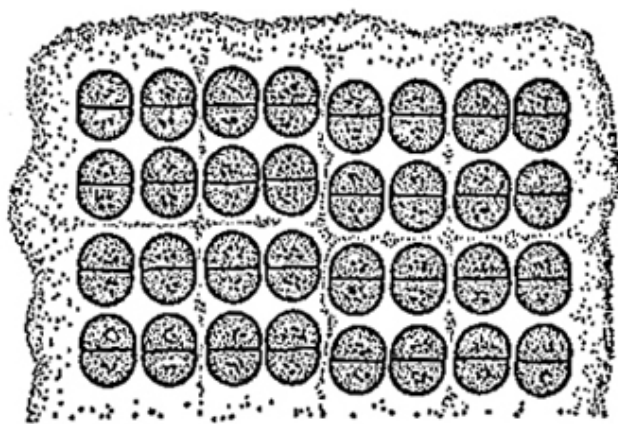
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Merismopedia glauca](#)

Diagnosis:

- colonies small with up to 64 cells
- cells spherical, ellipsoidal or hemispherical (after cell division), 3–6 μm
- mucilage sheath distinct, following contours of cells
- content of cells homogeneous
- color blueish-green, often pale, sometimes pinkish



1 = after Streble
2 = after Bittner

Merismopedia glauca

I found *Merismopedia glauca* in October 2003 in the [Simmelried](#). After that I have not

registered any more finds of this species.

Merismopedia glauca is very similar to *Merismopedia elegans*. However, the colonies of *Merismopedia glauca* are much smaller and contain maximum 64 cells. In contrast, the tabular colonies of *Merismopedia elegans* can contain up to 4000 cells. In addition, the mucus envelope around the cells of *Merismopedia glauca* is distinct and fits closely to the cells, whereas the mucus envelope surrounding the colonies of *Merismopedia elegans* has a distance of about one cell diameter from the outer cells.

The color of the cells of *Merismopedia glauca* is variously reported. It is said to be blueish-green and sometimes pinkish. The cells of my population were more olive green.



Fig. 1: *Merismopedia glauca*. Some colonies with 8 – 16 cells embedded in a field of yellowish sulfur bacteria. Obj. 40 X.

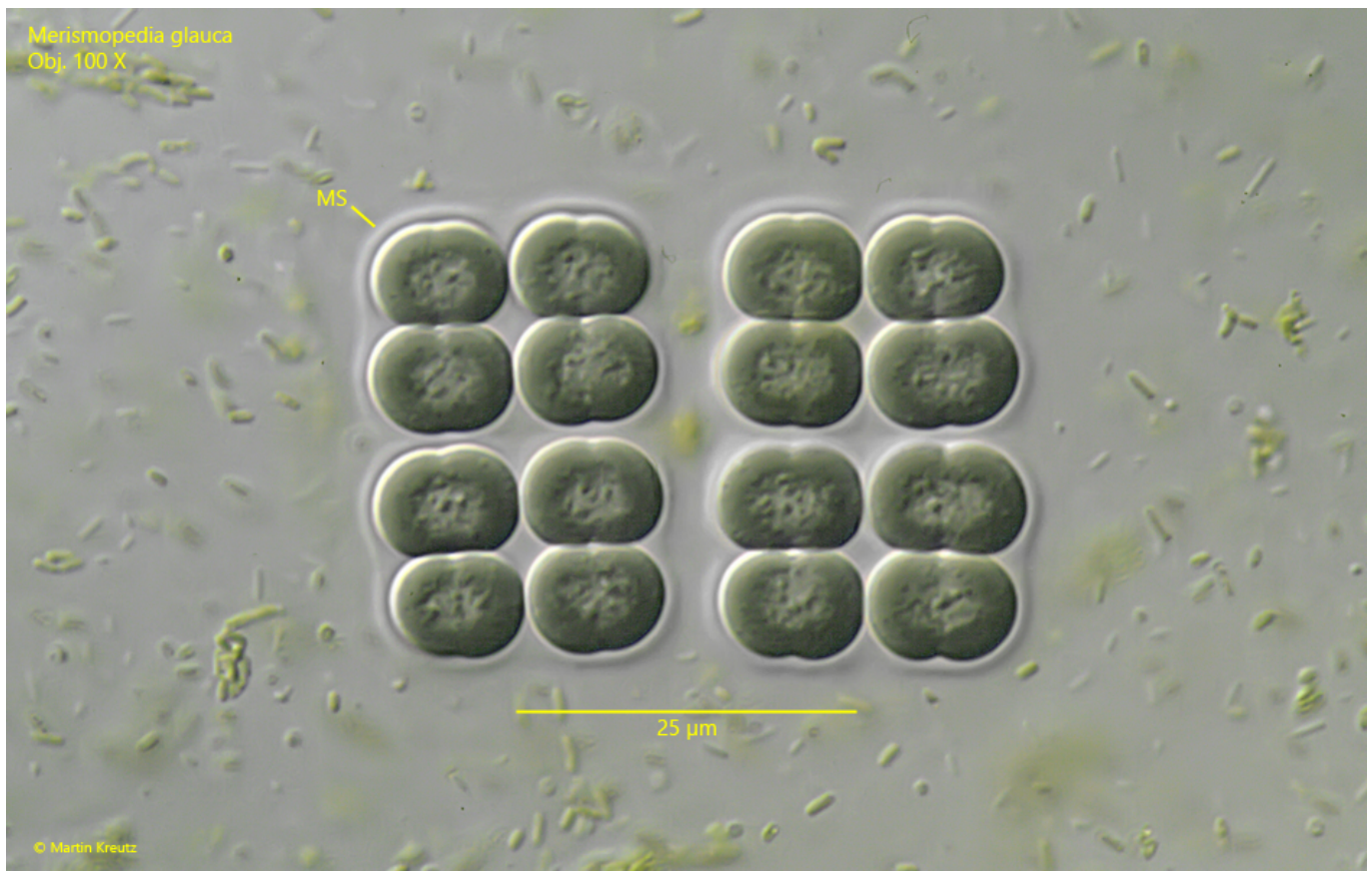


Fig. 2: *Merismopedia glauca*. A colony of 16 cells in detail. Each cell (in cell division) has a length of about 10 µm (= 5 µm per half-cell). Note the distinct mucilaneous sheath (MS) following the contours of the cells. Obj. 100 X.