

***Metopus latus* (Kahl, 1927)**

Most likely ID: n.a.

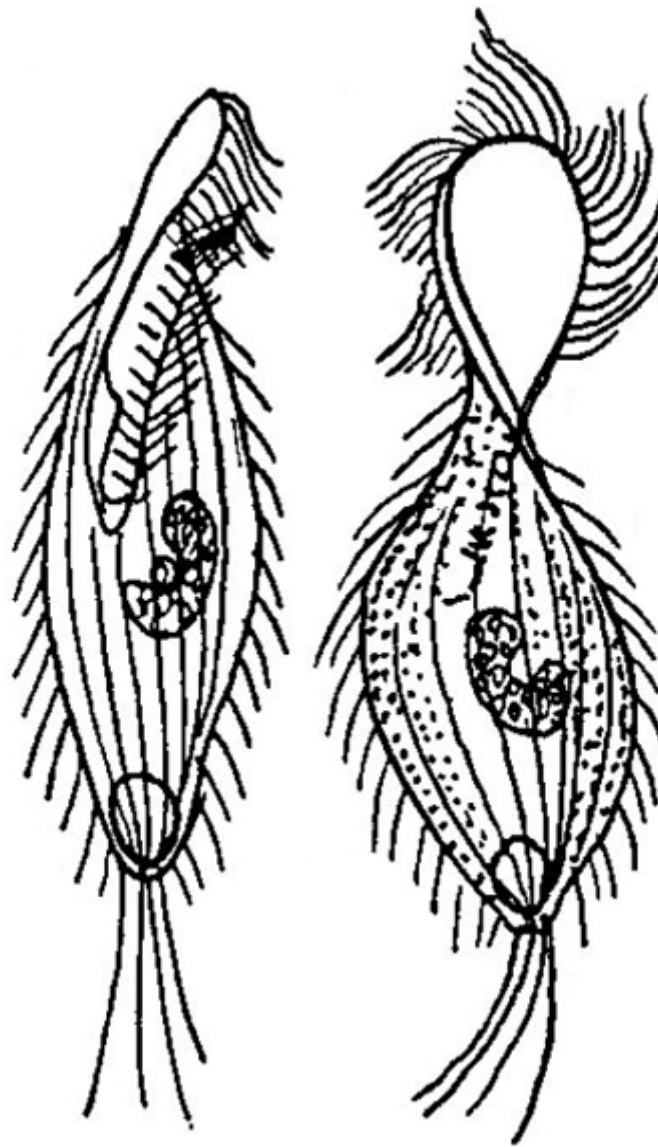
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Metopus latus](#)

Diagnosis:

- body fusiform
- length about 85 µm
- apical dome strongly flattened and twisted
- adoral zone short
- perizonal cilia long
- somatic cilia long and soft
- macronucleus kidney-shaped or ellipsoidal with adjacent micronucleus
- contractile vacuole large, terminal
- posterior end with caudal cilia



after Kahl

Metopus latus

So far I could find only one specimen of *Metopus latus* in October 2006 in the [Simmelried](#). The photos shown below were still taken on slide film with a 60 X lens at high film thickness. *Metopus latus* can be easily recognized by the flattened and twisted anterior dome, on the outer edge of which runs the perizonal stripe with long cilia (s. fig. 1 b). The adoral zone is only short and has few membranelles (s. fig. 1 a). Kahl gives a length of about 85 μm . My specimen was a bit stouter and only 68 μm long, but this is still within the usual variability. As described and drawn by Kahl (s. above), the macronucleus is kidney-shaped and encloses a spherical micronucleus (s. figs. 1 b and 1 d). The caudal cilia are long but widely spaced.

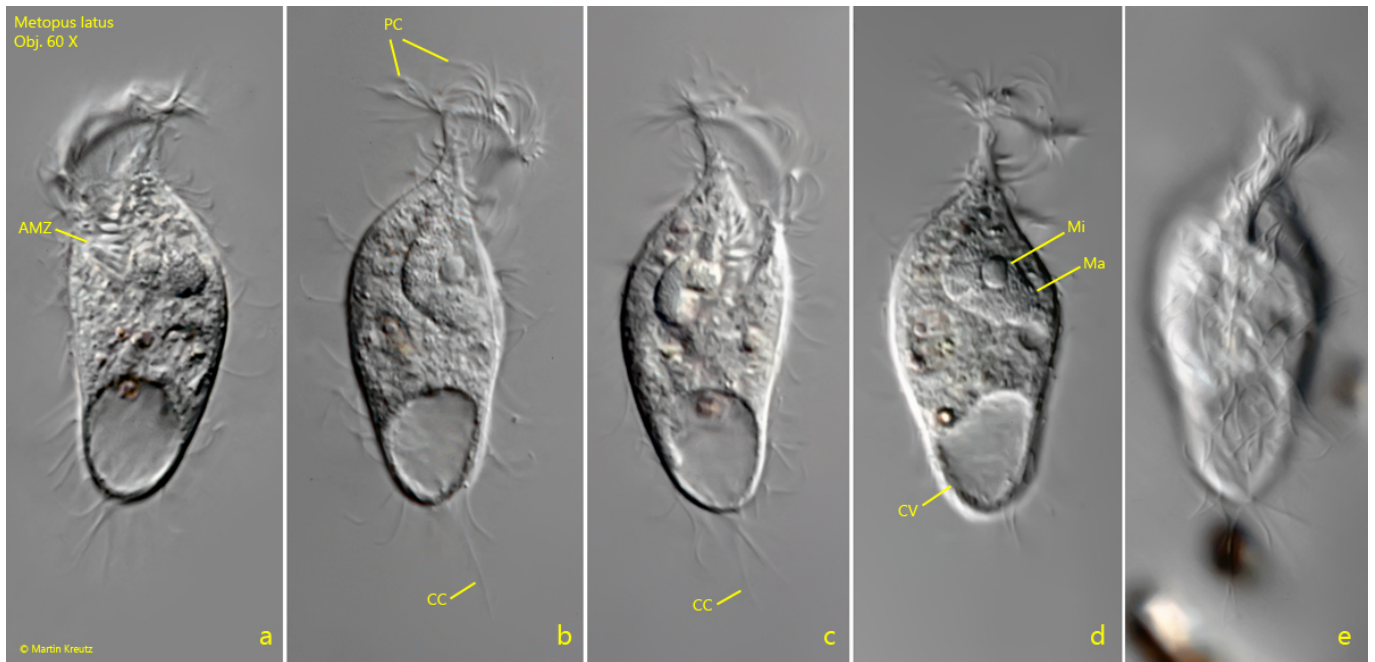


Fig. 1 a-e: *Metopus latus*. L = 68 μ m. A freely swimming specimen from ventral (a, c) and from right (b, d, e). Note the flattened and twisted apical dome with the long perizonal cilia on the edge. AMZ = adoral zone of membranelles, CC = caudal cilia, CV = contractile vacuole, Ma = macronucleus, Mi = micronucleus. Obj. 60 X.