Mylestoma bipartitum

(Gourret & Roeser, 1886) Kahl, 1928

Most likely ID: n.a.

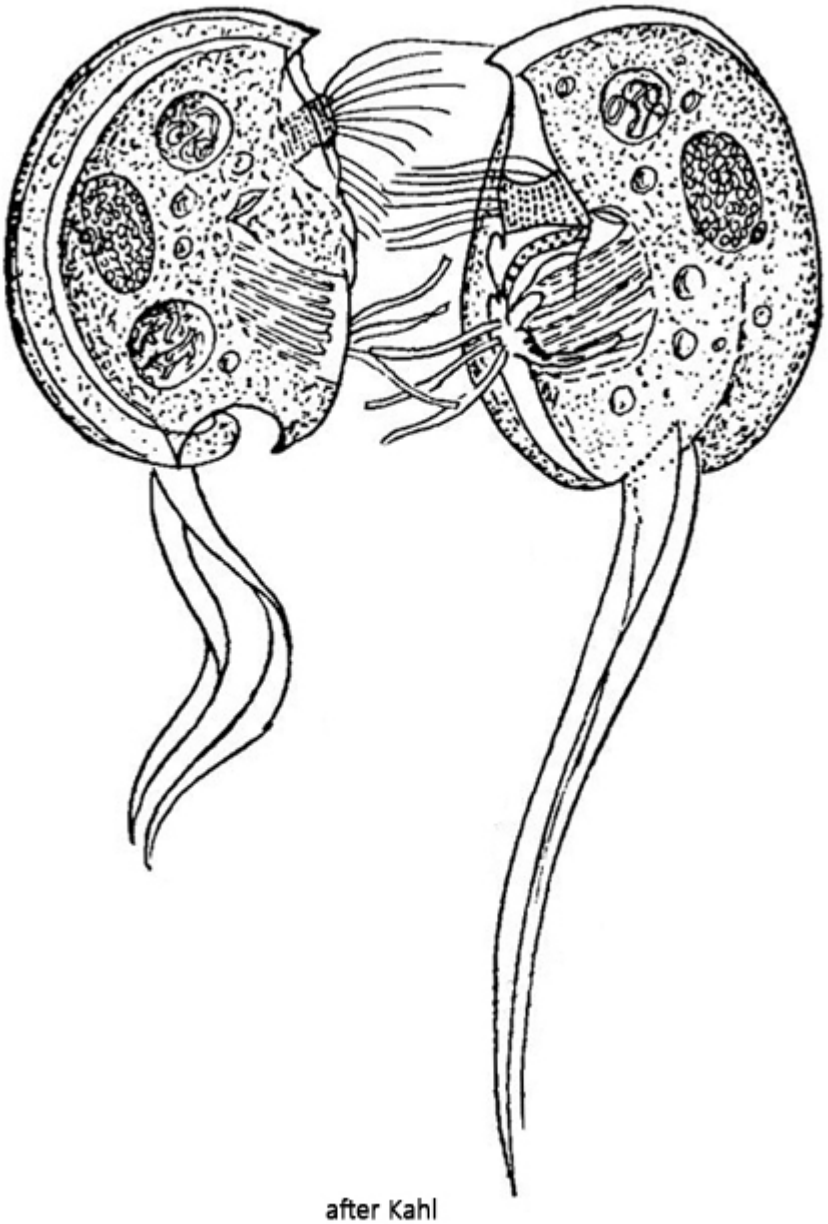
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Firefighting pond Hiddensee

Phylogenetic tree: *Mylestoma bipartitum*

Diagnosis:

- body nearly oval, laterally flattened
- length 35–50 µm
- both sides flat
- pellicle armour-like
- two flattened ventral spines
- two short posterior spines on right side
- two posterior cirri on left side
- three ventral cirri
- single macronucleus and micronucleus



Mylestoma bipartitum

Mylestoma bipartitum is described by Kahl as a brackish water or saltwater form. I found *Mylestoma bipartitum* in a fire-fighting pond on the island Hiddensee. The fire-fighting pond is located near the Hiddensee Biological Station in a south-easterly direction and contains fresh water. Kahl describes *Mylestoma bipartitum* as euryhaline, which means that the species is very tolerant of salinity. This would explain the finding in fresh water.

Like all species of the genus *Mylestoma*, the posterior and ventral spines are greatly reduced. I was only able to examine one specimen from the left side, on which there is a bundle of very long cirri at the posterior end (s. fig. 1 a-b). I was able to recognize the two flattened and curved ventral spines mentioned by Kahl (s. fig. 1

a). On the ventral side, in addition to the perizonal ciliary band, there are also 3 short cirri, which originate approximately at the level of the adoral zone (s. fig. 2 a). At the posterior end there are only two inconspicuous spines, which could also be recognized when focusing to the right side (s. figs. 2 b and 2 c). A macronucleus is present. I could not identify the micronucleus perfectly, but it is possibly separated from the macronucleus (s. fig. 2 b).

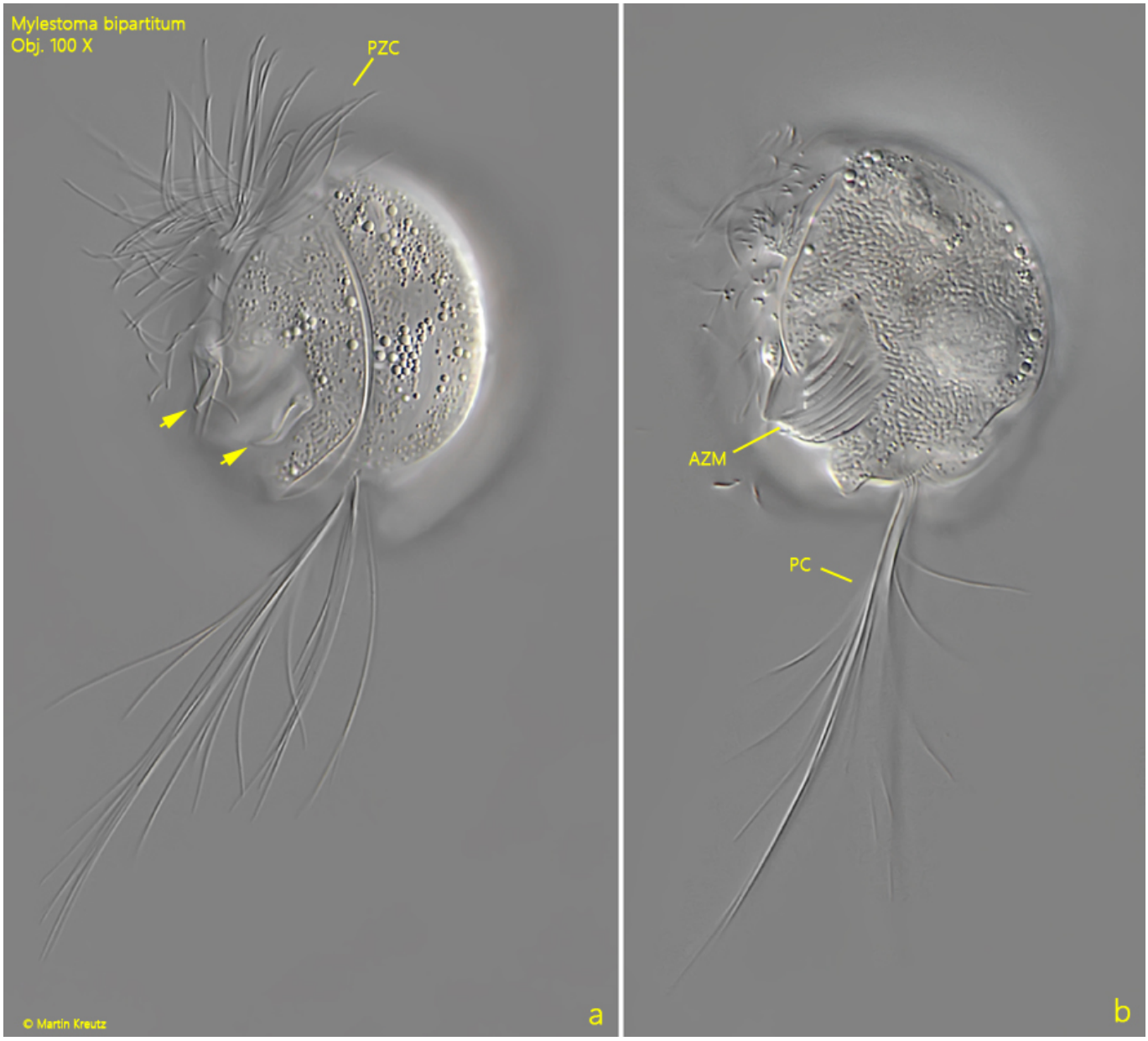


Fig. 1 a-b: *Mylestoma bipartitum*. L = 49 µm. Two focal planes from the left side. Note the two curved ventral spines (arrows) and the tuft of long posterior cilia (PC). AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, PZC = perizonal cilia. Obj. 100 X.

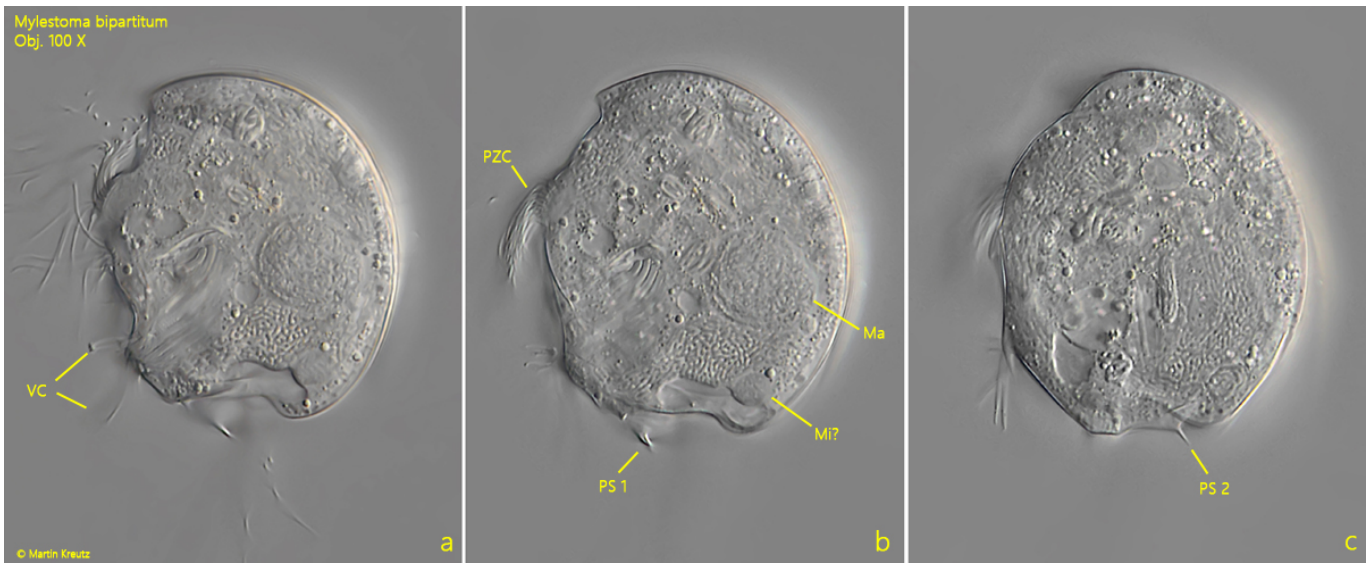


Fig. 2 a-c: *Mylestoma bipartitum*. L = 49 µm. Three focal planes from the left side toward the right side. Note the ventral cirri (VC) near the adoral zone of membranelles and the two inconspicuous posterior spines (Ps 1, PS 2). Ma = macronucleus, Mi? = probably the micronucleus, PZC = perizonal cilia. Obj. 100 X.