

***Petalomonas sexlobata* G.A.Klebs, 1892**

Most likely ID: n.a.

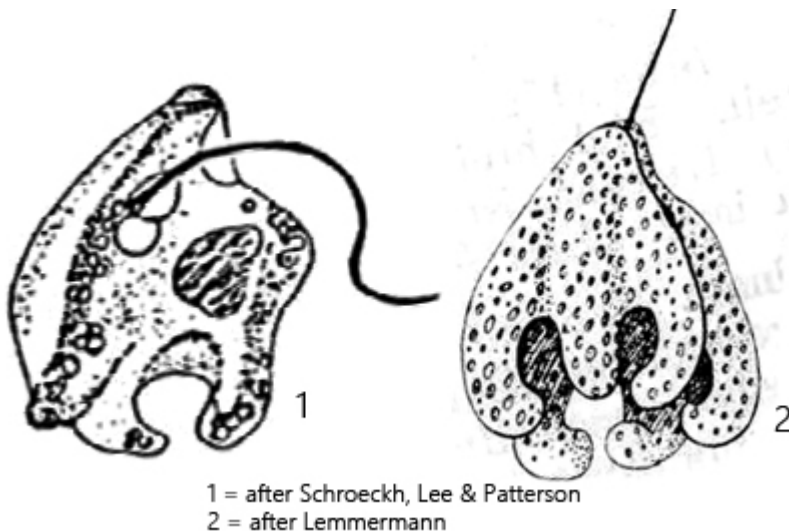
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Petalomonas sexlobata](#)

Diagnosis:

- cells with 6 inwardly curved processes
- length 27–30 μm
- one flagellum, about twice body length



Petalomonas sexlobata

In 2007 and 2008, I often found *Petalomoas sexlobata* in the uppermost layer of mud at [Simmelried](#). After 2008, I was no longer able to detect this curious species.

The available descriptions of *Petalomonas sexlobata* are extremely brief and may all ultimately derive from Klebs (1892). The species is said to have 6 projections that extend backward and curve inward. In my population, I found specimens with

projections of varying lengths and shapes. It appeared that two of these projections were always longer than the others. Sometimes these longer projections were finger-shaped (s. fig. 1 a-c). I was also not always able to observe 6 projections. Sometimes there were only 4 or 5. The specimens measured 30–32 μm in length, which is consistent with the reported range of 27–30 μm given by Lemmermann (1913).

Although the shape of my specimens of *Petalomonas sexlobata* does not fully match the drawings by Schroeckh et al. and Lemmermann (s. drawings above), I see no other alternative. The species *Petalomonas spinifera* also has projections, but these are pointed rather than rounded. *Petalomonas mira* var. *appendiculata* has finger-shaped projections at the posterior end, but also has distinct ribs, which I was unable to observe in my specimens.

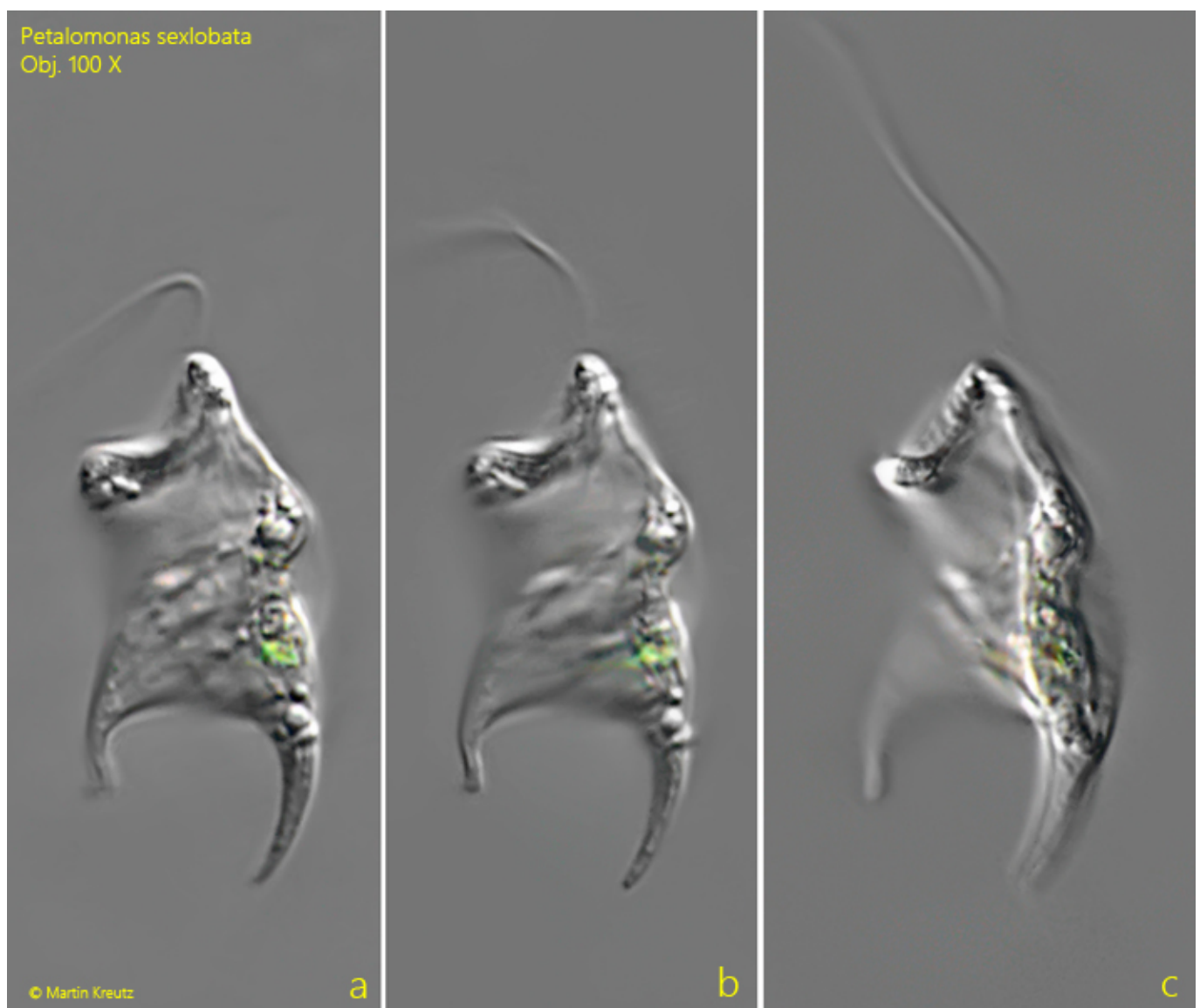


Fig. 1 a-c: *Petalomonas sexlobata*. L = 32 μm . Dorsal view on a freely swimming specimen with inwardly curved processes. Obj. 100 X.

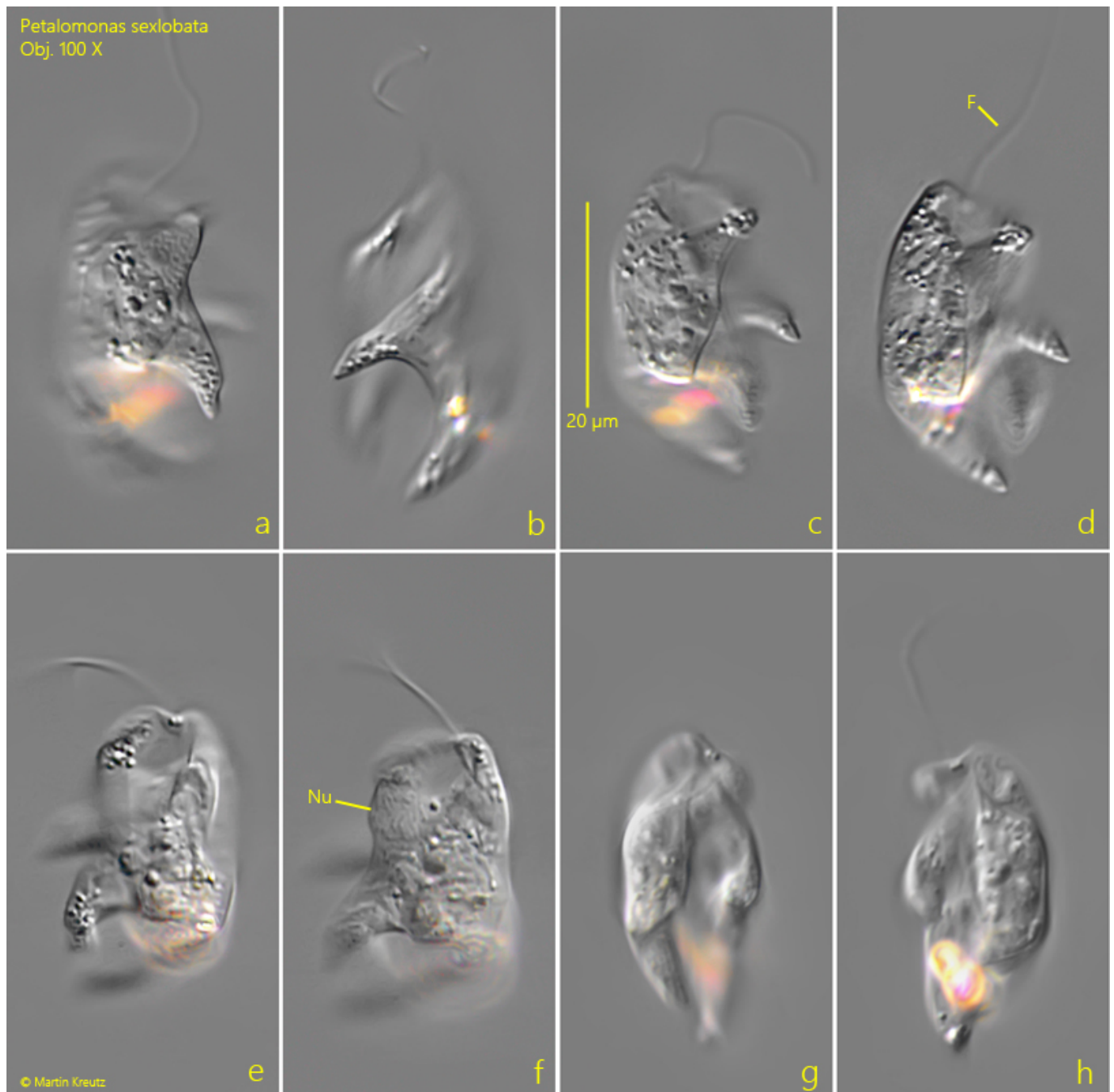


Fig. 2 a-h: *Petalomonas sexlobata*. L = 31 µm. A second, freely swimming specimen from right (a, c, d), left (b) and from dorsal (e-f). Obj. 100 X.