***Phacus acuminatus* Stokes, 1885**

Most likely ID: n.a.

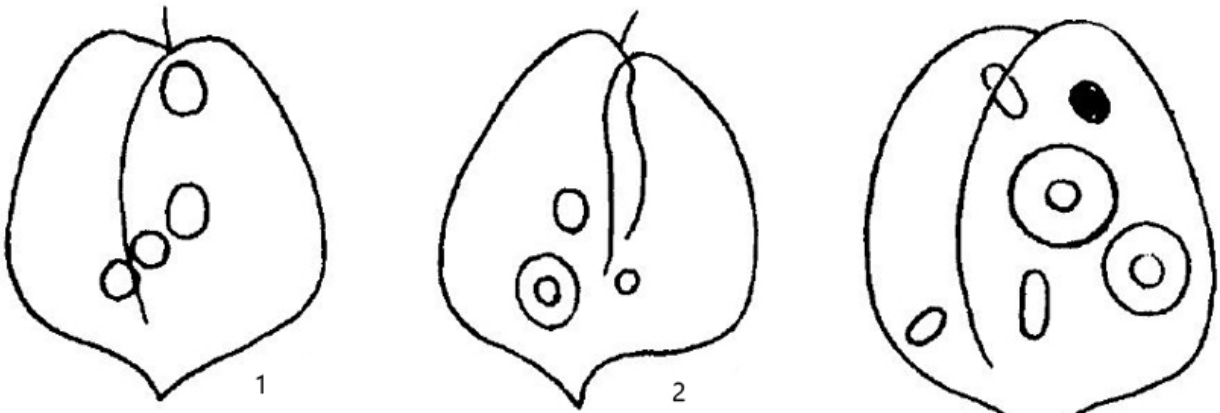
Synonym: *Phacus acuminata*

Sampling location: Simmelried, Purren pond, Mainau pond, Ulmisried

Phylogenetic tree: ***Phacus acuminatus***

Diagnosis:

- cell broadly ovoid, strongly flattened
- length 23–40 µm, width 20–30 µm
- often 1–2 prominent paramylon bodies
- many chloroplasts, disc-shaped
- very short caudal spine, V-shaped
- one flagellum, about body length
- striation of the pellicle longitudinally



1 = after Stokes
2 = after Prescott
3 = after Swirenko

Phacus acuminatus

Phacus acuminatus can is a very common species and I find it in different sites. The species can be recognized by its broad oval shape and the very short, V-shaped

spine (s. fig. 1b). Usually 1–2 large, disc-shaped paramylon bodies are present in the cell, sometimes with a central hole or even ring-shaped. The specimens in my population were mostly 30 µm long. Because of the small size the species is often overlooked.

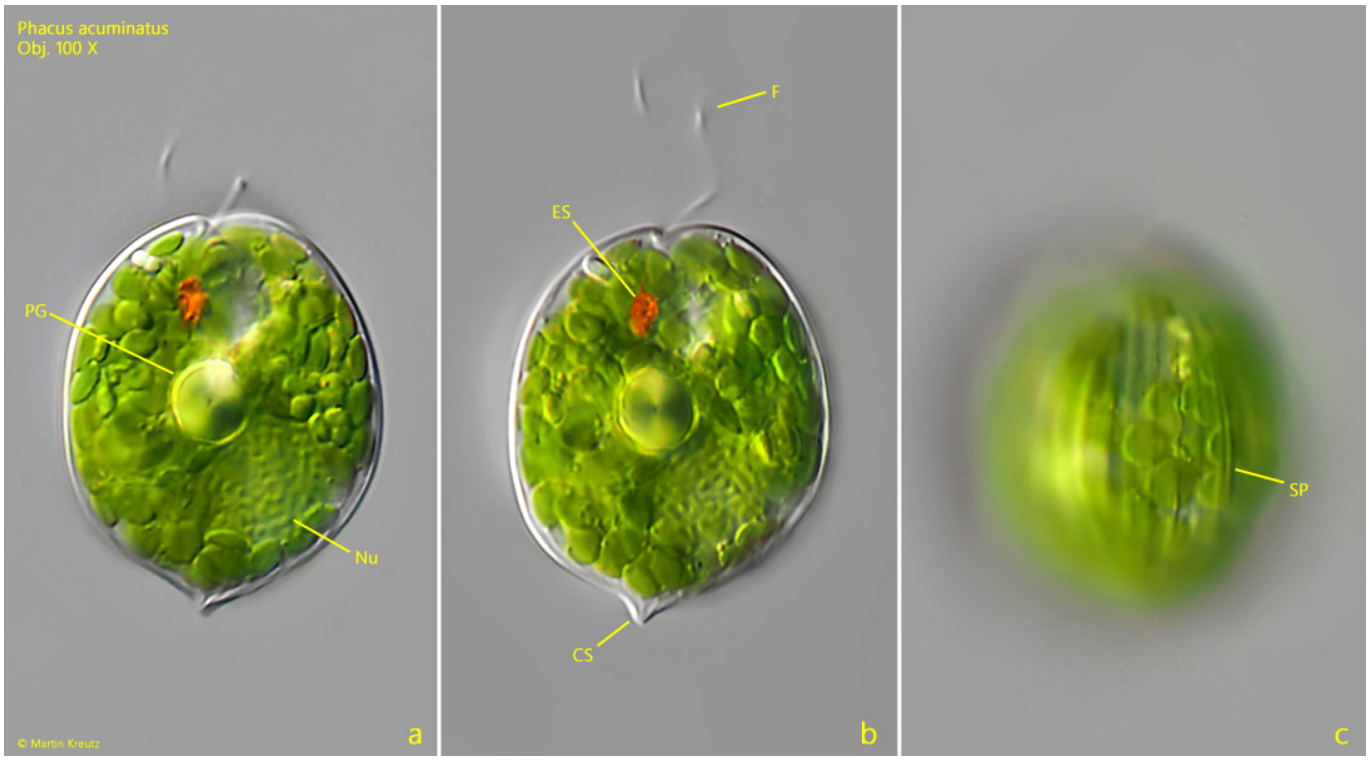


Fig. 1 a-c: *Phaus acuminatus.* L = 30 µm. Different focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. CS = caudal spine, ES = eyespot, F = flagellum, Nu = nucleus, PG = prominent paramylon grain, SP = striation of pellicle. Obj. 100 X.

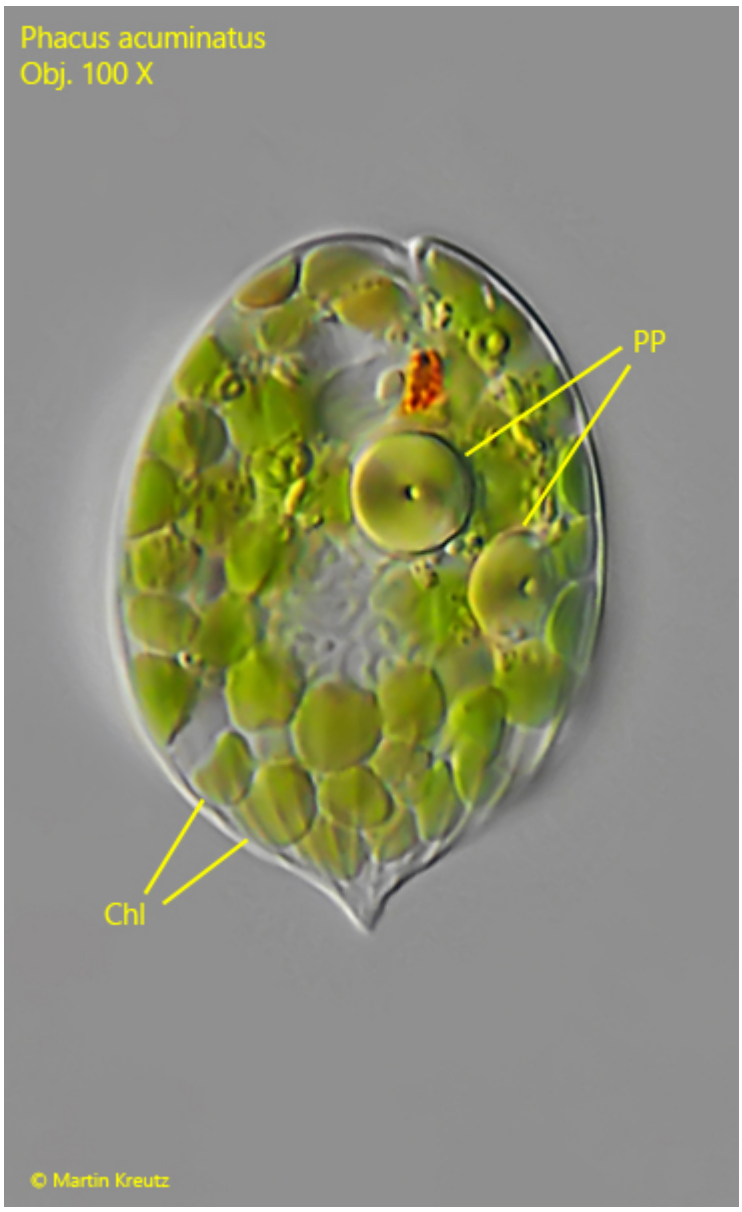


Fig. 2: *Phaus acuminatus.* L = 32 µm. A second, strongly squashed specimen with two prominent paramylon bodies (PP). Chl = disc-shaped chloroplasts. Obj. 100 X.