

***Ploesoma triacanthum* (Bergendal, 1892)**

Most likely ID: n.a.

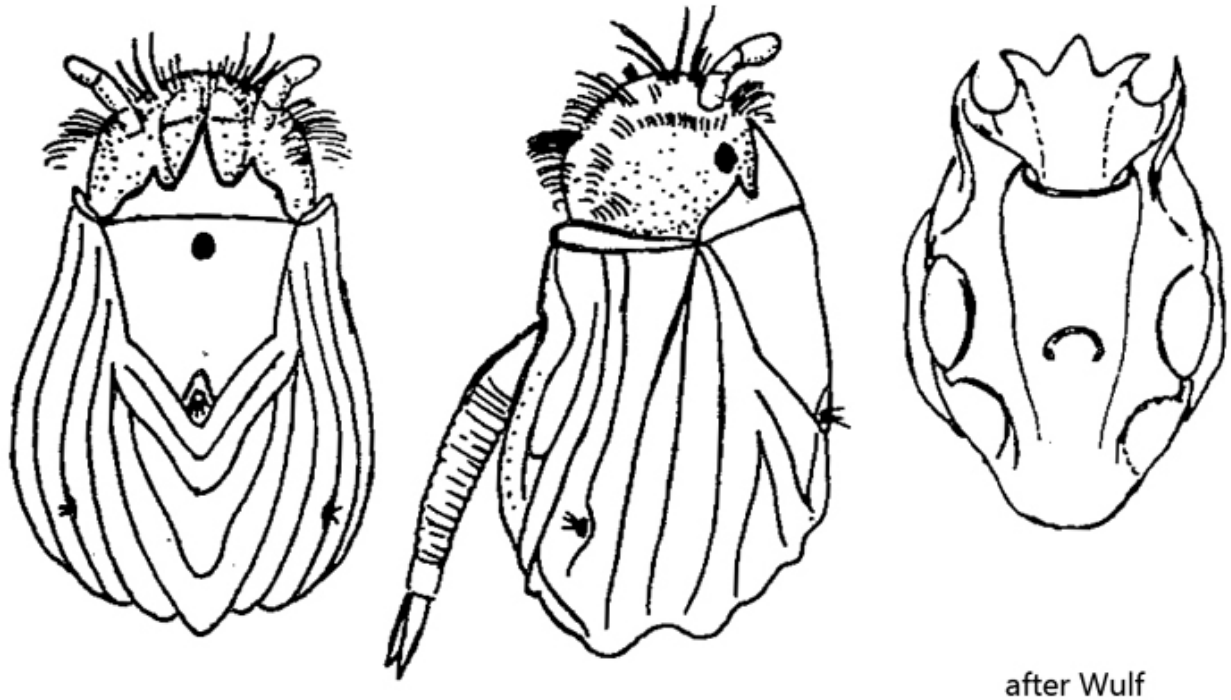
Synonym: *Ploesoma lynceus*

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Ploesoma triacanthum](#)

Diagnosis:

- body bag-shaped
- length 136-220 µm
- lorica of one piece, surface granulated with longitudinal ridges
- lorica ventrally open
- lorica with three anterior spines, the middle one curved downwards
- corona with a pair of frontal palps
- foot mid-ventral
- foot annulated with long pointed toes
- one eyespot



Ploesoma triacanthum

So far I have found *Ploesoma triacanthum* exclusively in [Simmelried](#) between floating plant masses. I have had no evidence also of a planktonic lifestyle from my other sites. The findings are limited to May 2004, July, 2005 and August 2005. Before and after I could not detect the species. With the foot on the ventral side and the 3 apical spines *Ploesoma triacanthum* is comparatively easy to identify and to distinguish from the other *Ploesoma* species.

More images and information of *Ploesoma triacanthum*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-Ploesoma triacanthum](#)

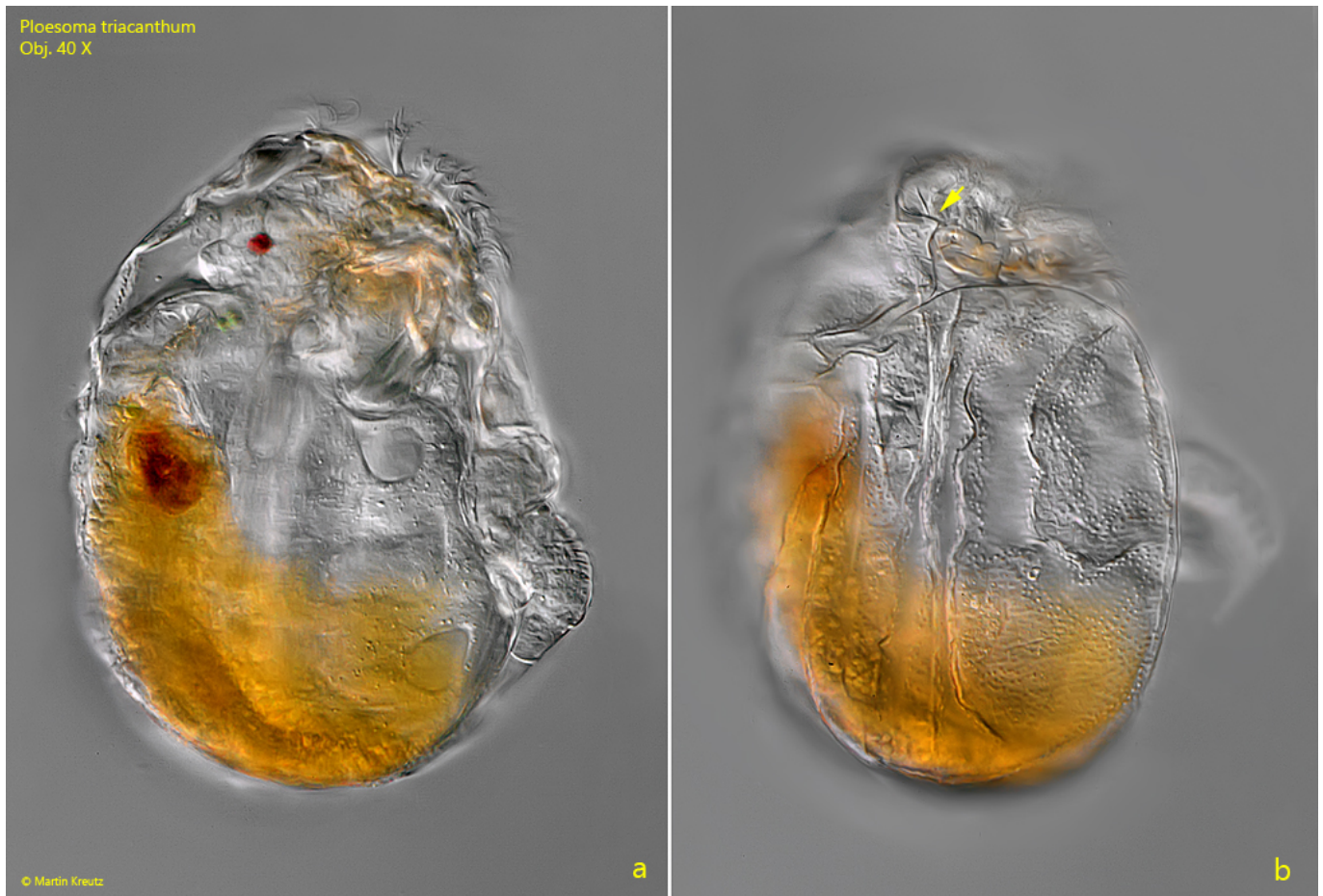


Fig. 1 a-b: *Ploesoma triacanthum*. L = 190 μm . Lateral view of a slightly squashed specimen from right. One of the apical spines is visible (arrow). Obj. 40 X.

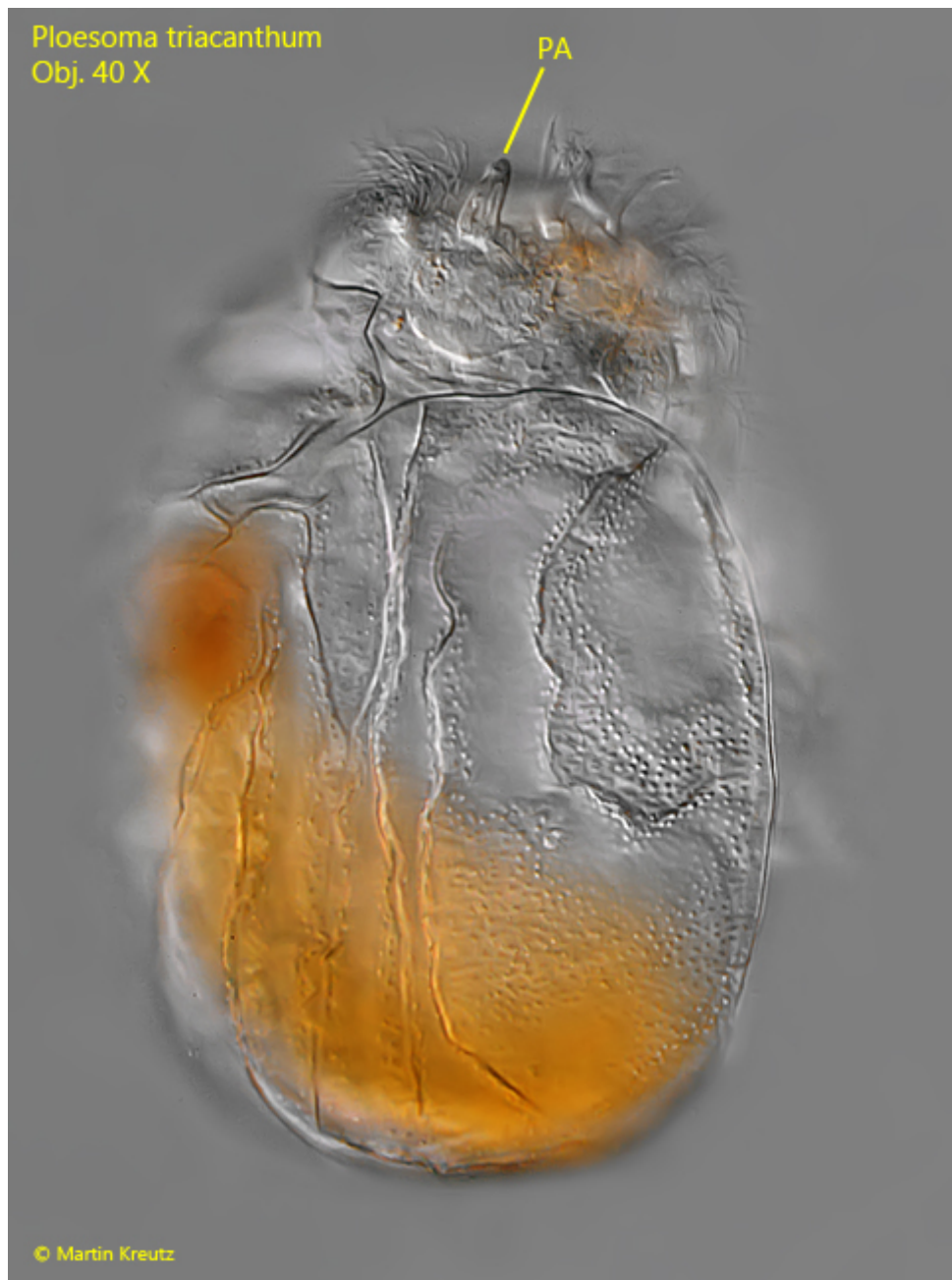


Fig. 2: *Ploesoma triacanthum*. L = 190 μ m. Focus on one of the two apical palps (PA). Obj. 40 X.

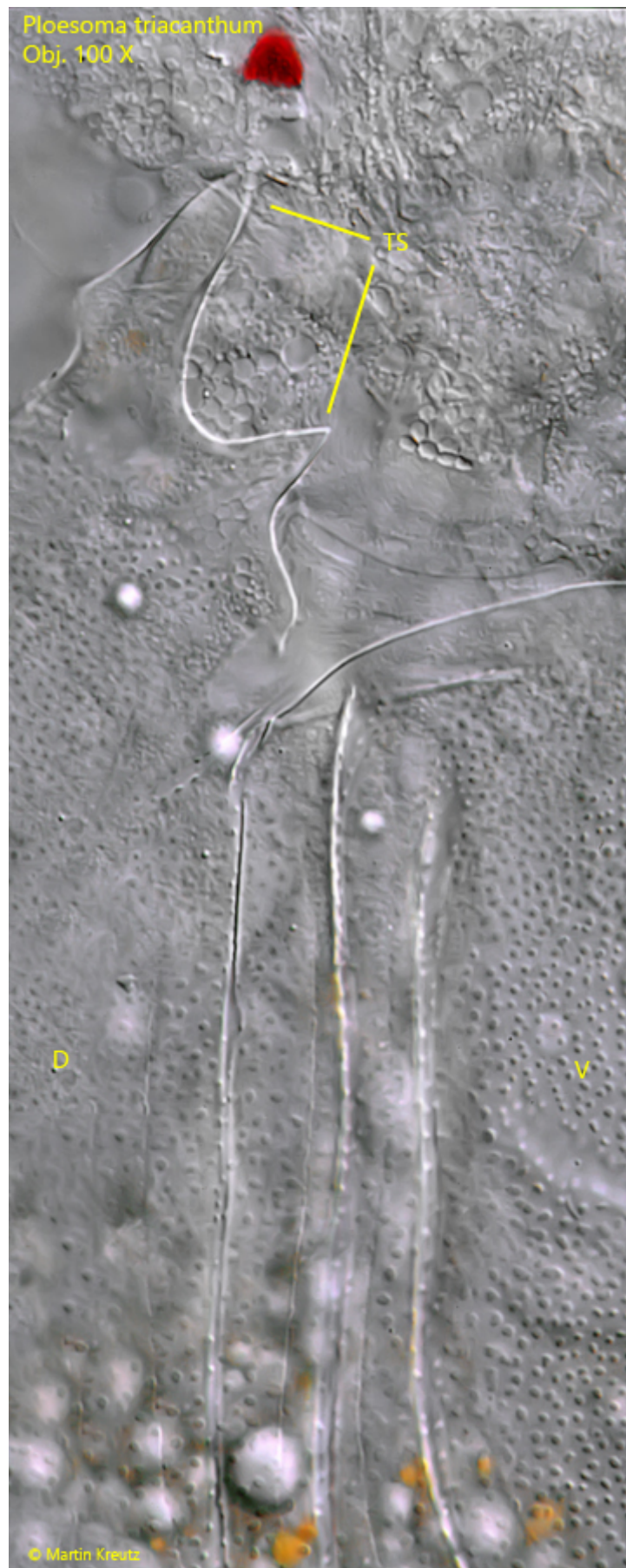


Fig. 3: *Ploesoma triacanthum*. Detail of the lateral structure of the lorica. Three longitudinal ridges run along the lateral midline. Apically two of the three tooth-shaped

spines (TS) on the dorsal side are visible. D = dorsal side, V = ventral side. Obj. 100 X.

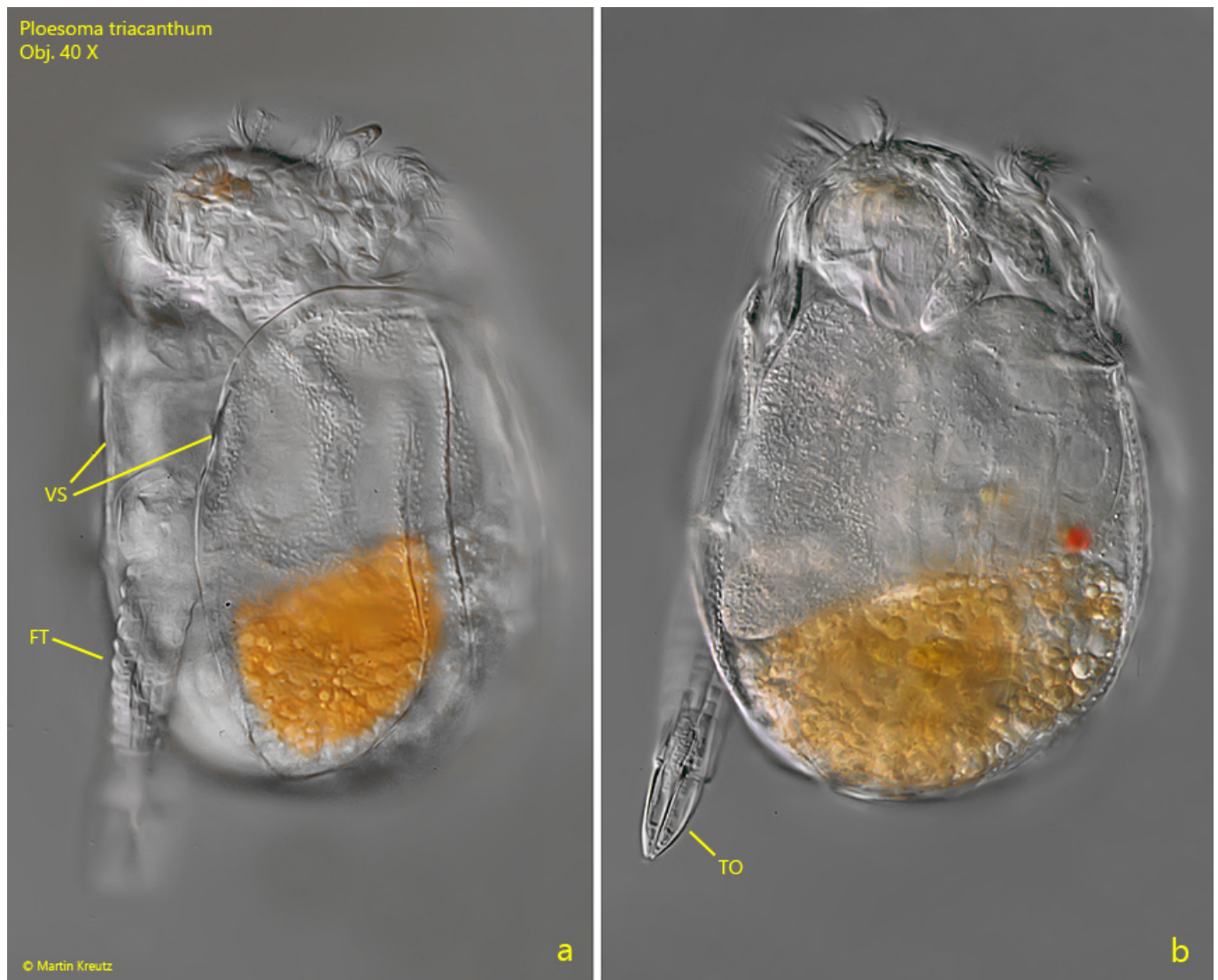


Fig. 4 a-b: *Ploesoma triacanthum*. L = 194 (with foot). A freely swimming specimen subventrally (a) and from the left. Note the ventral slit (VS). FT = foot, TO = toes. Obj. 40 X.