

Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex

Kahl, 1932

Most likely ID: n.a.

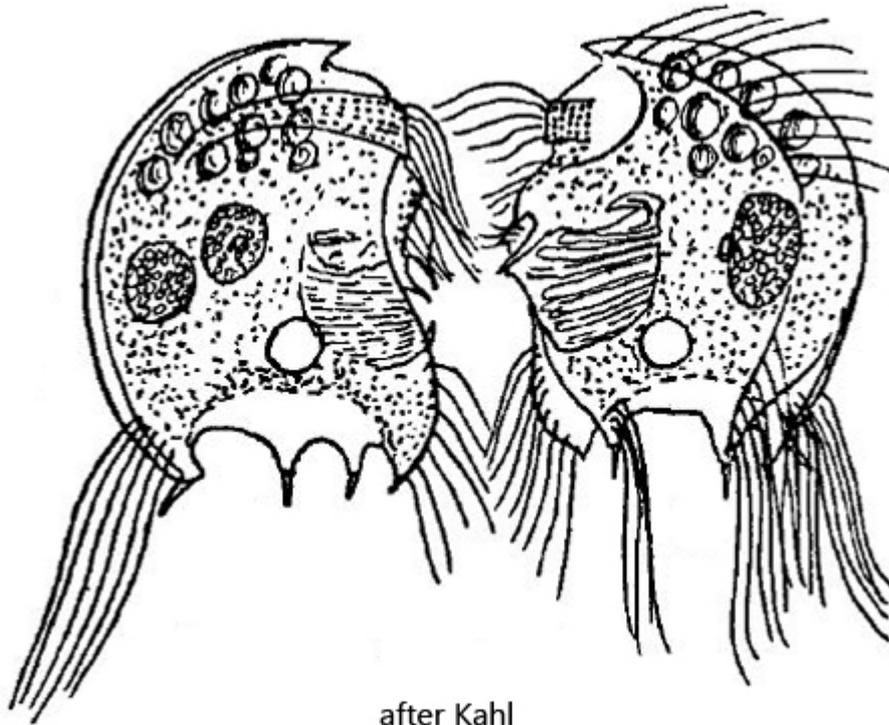
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Saprodinium mimeticum var. simplex](#)

Diagnosis:

- cell 40–50 µm long
- body discoidal, laterally compressed
- the dorsal tooth with a spine, pointing dorsally
- the ventral tooth without spine
- ventral tooth only on right side
- right between ventral tooth and dorsal spine two spines
- left two spines and the dorsal spine
- frontal tooth short
- one or two spherical macronuclei
- contractile vacuole in posterior third



Saprodinium mimeticum var. *simplex*

Kahl examined [Saprodinium mimeticum](#) very carefully and discovered variations with significant characteristics, which he described in the two subspecies [Saprodinium mimeticum var. obliquum](#) and *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex*. In my populations from the [Simmelried](#) I could also detect these form variations described by him.

Saprodinium mimeticum var. *simplex* differs from the parent form by a much shorter frontal tooth. The ventral tooth is not long and curved but short and V-shaped. The dorsal spine is pointing dorsally and the median spines are shorter than in the parent form. Overall, the spines are shortened compared to the parent form. However, *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex* lacks the ventral tooth on the left side, as described for the parent form.

I could find the variant *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex* twice in [Simmelried](#). Both times in November of the years 2020 and 2022. Unfortunately I could only take images from the left side. In the second specimen, however, I set the focal plane through the specimen on the right side (s. figs. 2c and 2d).

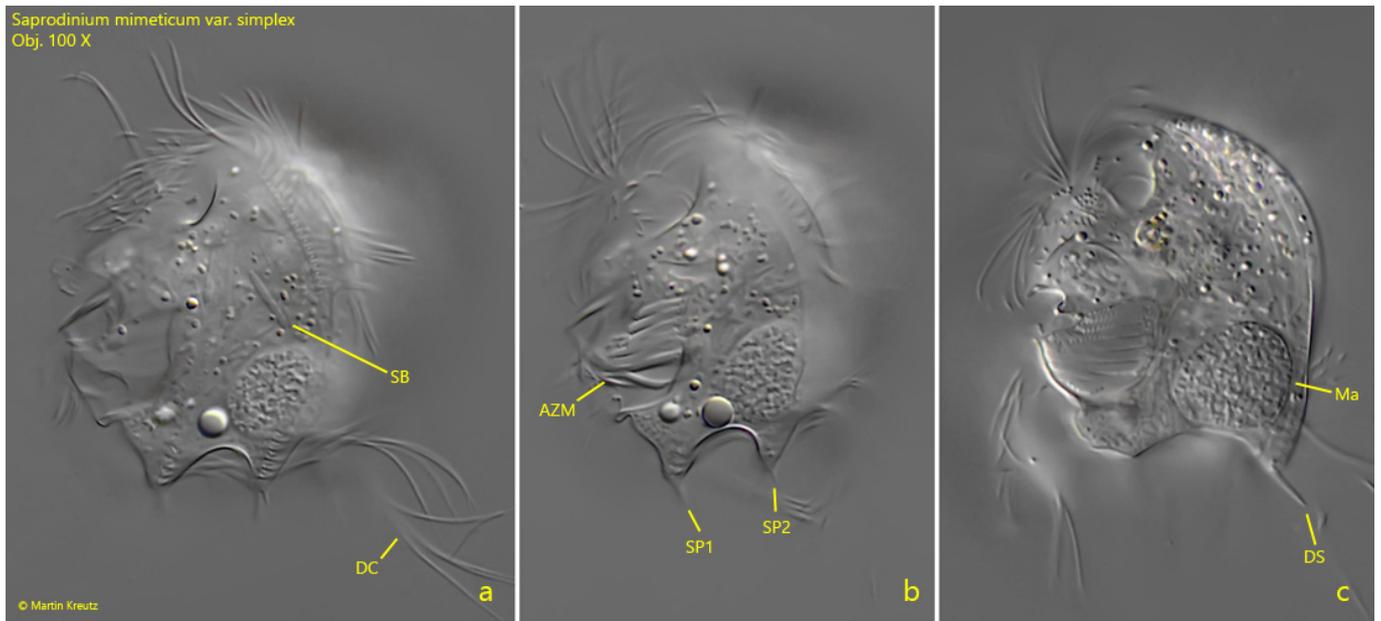


Fig. 1 a-c: *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex*. L = 38 μ m. A freely swimming specimen from the left side. AZM = adoral zone of membranelles; DC = dorsal elongated cilia; DS = dorsal spine; Ma = macronucleus; SB = symbiotic bacteria; SP1, SP2 = median posterior spines left side. Obj. 100 X.

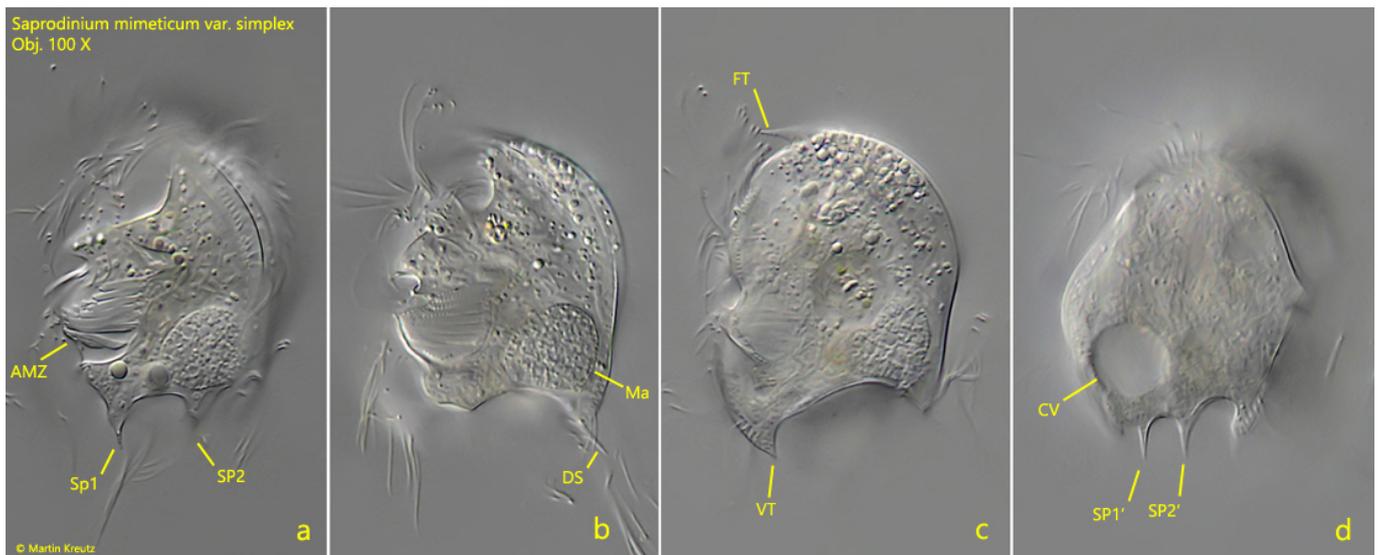
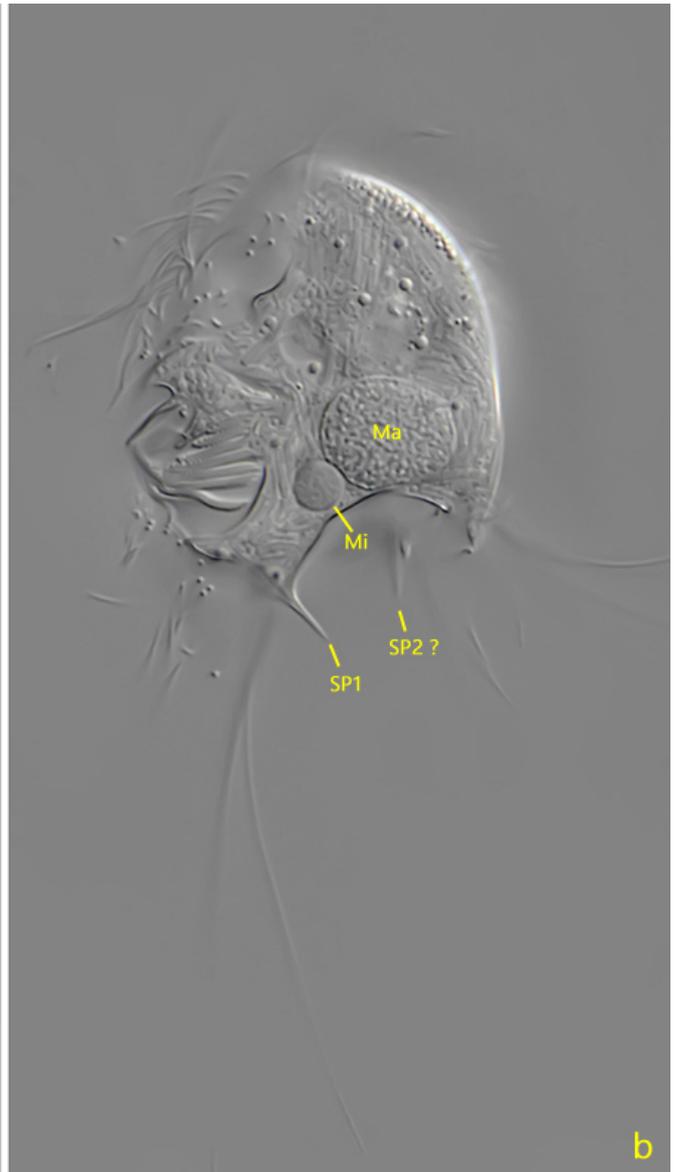
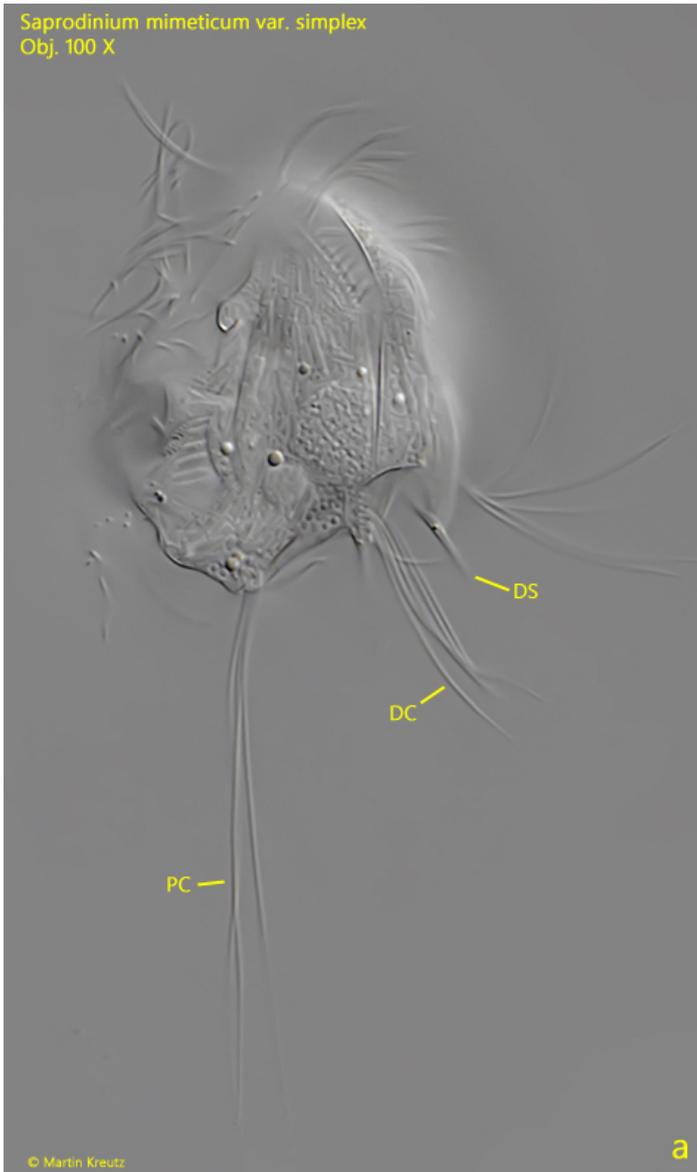


Fig. 2 a-d: *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex*. L = 42 μ m. Four focal planes of a second specimen from the left side (a, b) to the right side (c, d). Note the short ventral tooth (VT) of the right side (s. fig. 2c). AMZ = adoral zone of membranelles; DS = dorsal spine; CV = contractile vacuole; FT = frontal tooth; Ma = macronucleus; SP1, SP2 = median posterior spines left side; SP1', SP2' = median posterior spines right side, VT = ventral spine right side. Obj. 100 X.

Saprodinium mimeticum var. simplex
Obj. 100 X



© Martin Kreutz

a

b

Saprodinium mimeticum var. simplex
Obj. 100 X

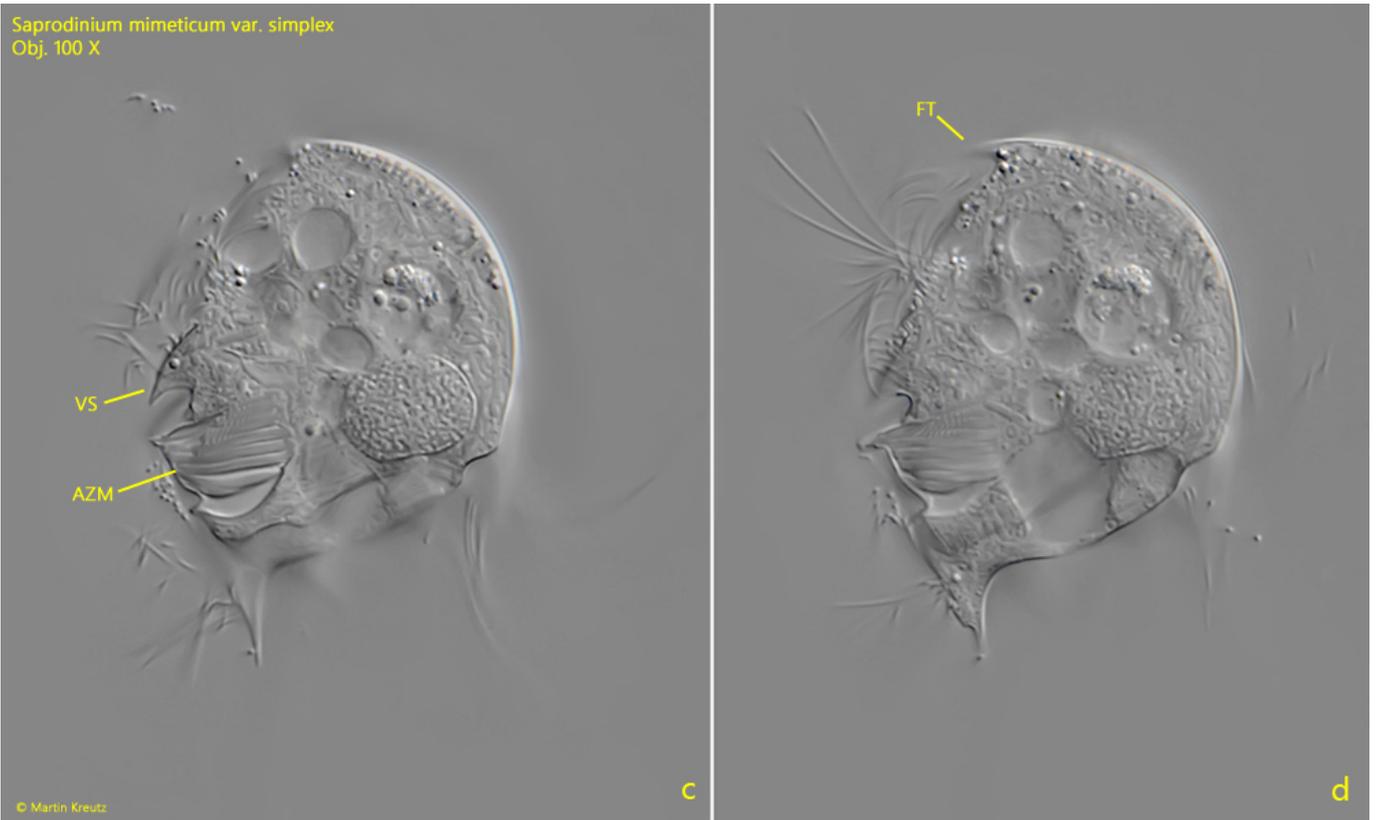


Fig. 3 a-d: *Saprodinium mimeticum* var. *simplex*. L = 51 μ m. Note the tufts of long posterior (PC) and dorsal cilia (DC). The posterior cilia are 54 μ m long. The curved ventral spine (VS) is visible and the dorsal spine (DS). AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, FT = frontal tooth, Ma = macronucleus, Mi = micronucleus. SP1 = median posterior spine. Obj. 100 X.