Staurastrum senarium Ralfs, 1848

Most likely ID: n.a.

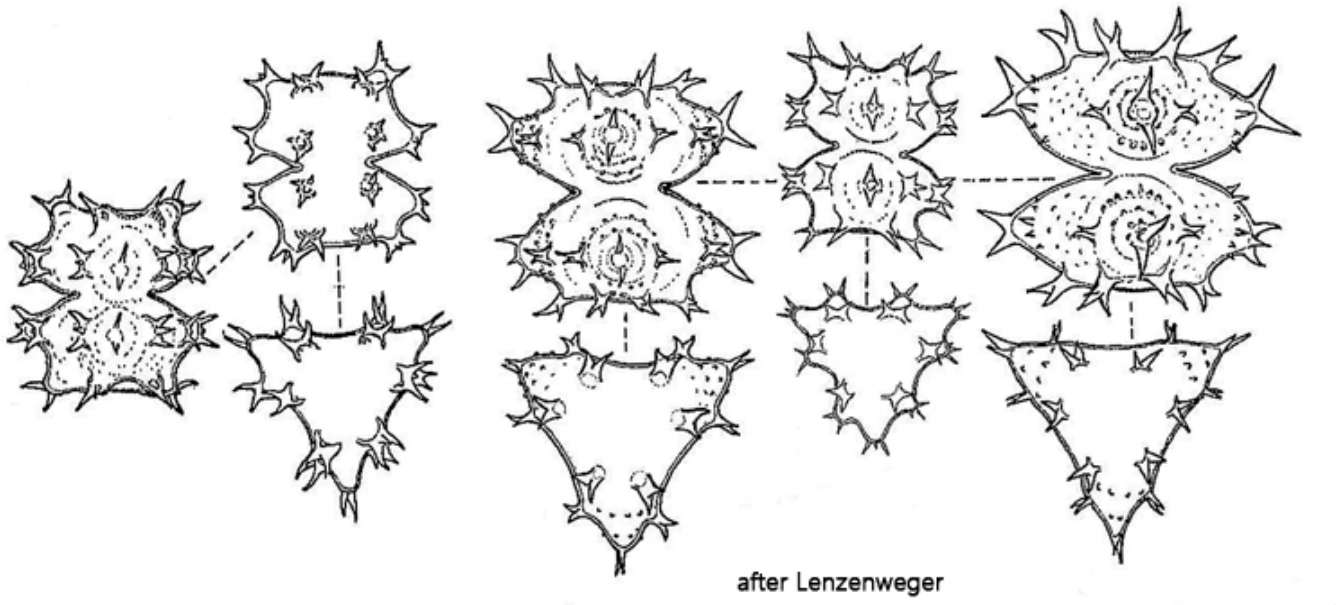
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: *Staurastrum senarium*

Diagnosis:

- cells little longer than wide
- semi-cells elongated oval
- lateral sides convex, apices flat
- length 26–33 µm, width 30–37 µm
- apices with two processes with 2-3 spines
- lateral angles of semi-cells with 2–3 spines
- in apical view 3 axis
- each semi-cell with one axial chloroplast with one pyrenoid



Staurastrum senarium

So far I have only found 2 specimens of *Staurastrum senarium* in the Simmelried. I have not

been able to find this alga in any of my other sampling sites. Lenzenweger (1997) found *Staurastrum senarium* in alpine *Sphagnum* ponds with a pH value of 5.9–6.2.

Staurastrum senarium shows a high variability, which makes identification difficult. The apical and lateral processes can have 2 or 3 spines. There are no further spines or ornamentally arranged tubercles on the central surfaces of the half-cells. The most conspicuous feature are the 2 or 3 spines that arise at the lateral angles of the semi-cells.

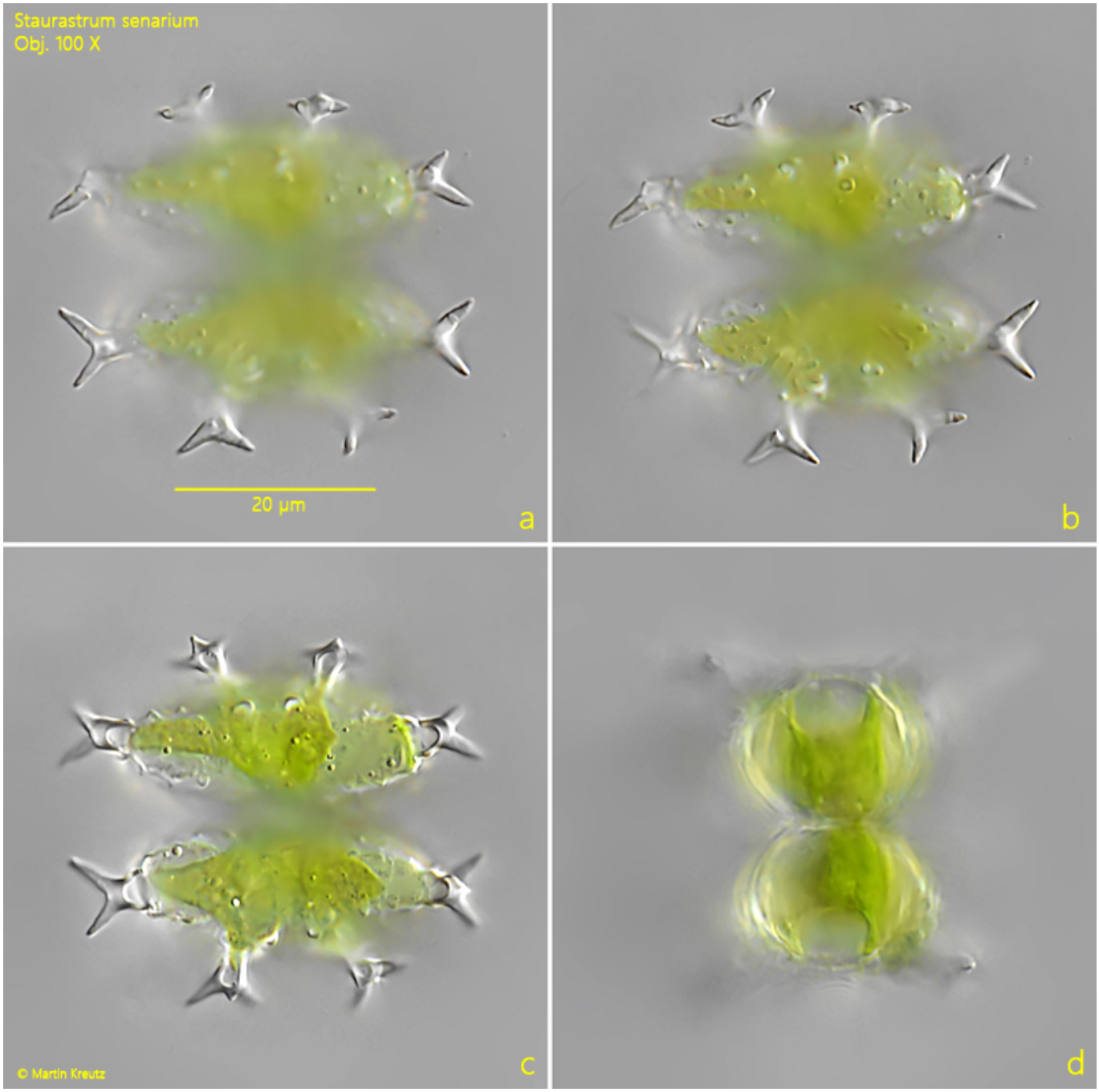


Fig. 1 a-d: Staurastrum senarium. L = 37 µm (with processes). Different focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. Obj. 100 X.