

***Staurostrum spongiosum* var. *perbifidum***

**West, 1892**

**Most likely ID:** n.a.

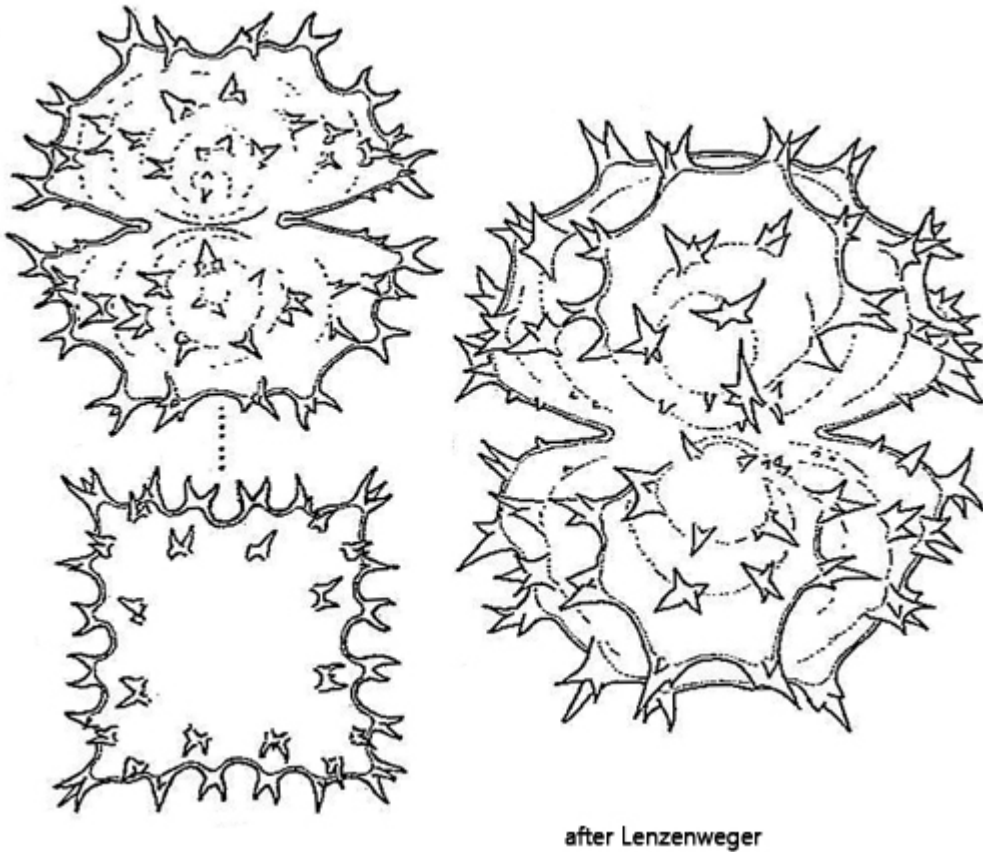
**Synonym:** n.a.

**Sampling location:** [Paradieswiesen \(Austria\)](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Staurostrum spongiosum](#) var. [perbifidum](#)

**Diagnosis:**

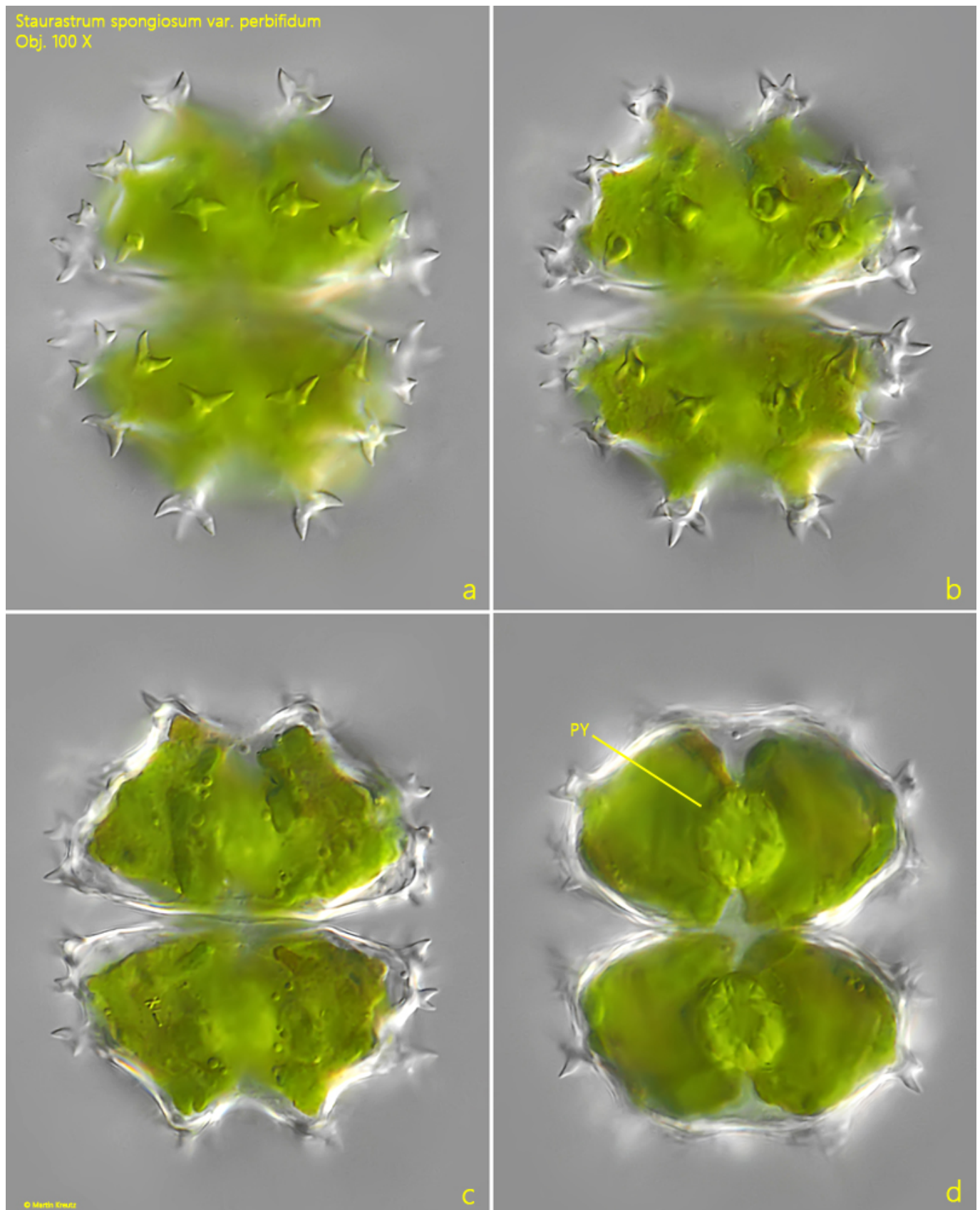
- cells about as wide as long, semi-cells broadly oval
- lateral sides convex
- length 60–65 µm, width 55–63 µm
- semi-cells covered with multi-tipped warts in concentric rows
- number and arrangement of warts variable
- in apical view 3 axis, rarely 4 axis
- each semi-cell with one axial chloroplast with one pyrenoid



*Staurastrum spongiosum* var. *perbifidum*

I have so far only found *Staurastrum spongiosum* var. *perbifidum* once in June 2024 in the [Paradieswiesen](#) in Austria.

The main characteristic of *Staurastrum spongiosum* var. *perbifidum* are the multi-tipped warts covering the half-cells. Their arrangement is subject to a certain variability. This also applies to the number of axes in apical view. The cell symmetry is usually triaxial. However, 4-axis variants also occur. This desmid alga is very adaptable and has been found up to an altitude of 2500 meters.



**Fig. 1 a-d:** *Staurostrum spongiosum* var. *perbifidum*. L = 55  $\mu$ m. Different focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. PY = pyrenoid. Obj. 100 X.