Staurastrum suchlandtianum

Messikommer, 1942

Most likely ID: n.a.

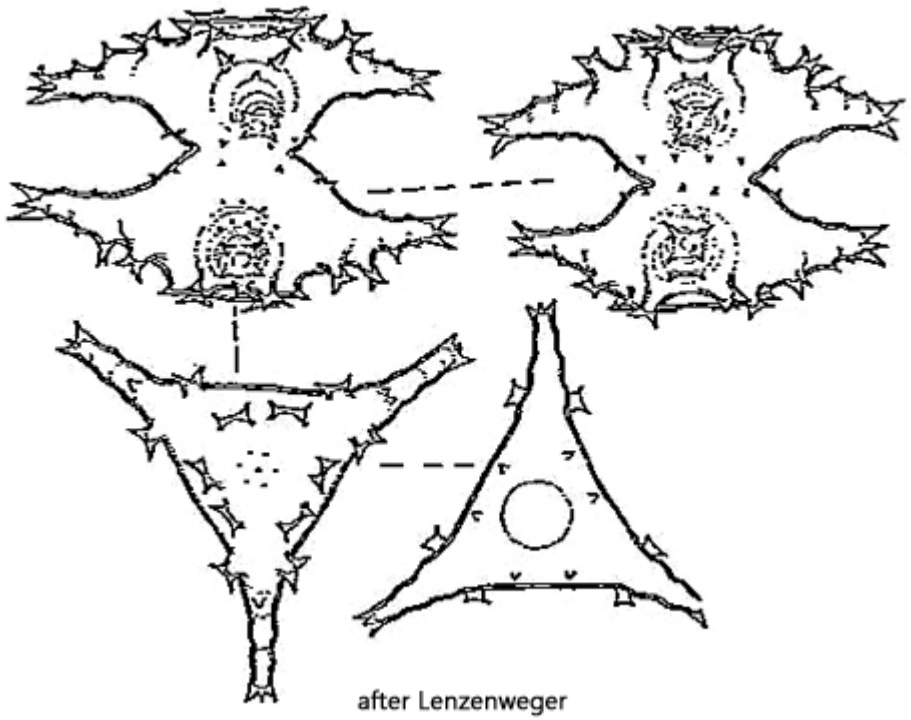
Synonyms: *Staurastrum bicoronatum* var. *alpinum*, *Staurastrum amphidoxon* var. *alpinum*

Sampling location: Mühlweiher Litzelstetten

Phylogenetic tree: *Staurastrum suchlandtianum*

Diagnosis:

- cells 3-radiate
- semi-cells flat trapezoid
- length 25–26 µm, width 35–40 µm
- apices slightly convex
- distal ends of arms with 3 spines
- the base of the arms with double-pointed spines
- arms slightly bent to equator
- center of apices with ring of short double spines
- base of semi-cells with each 6 short spines



Staurastrum suchlandtianum

So far, I have found only a few specimens of *Staurastrum suchlandtianum* in the Mühlweiher Litzestetten. This location is quite unusual, as Lenzenweger (1997) describes this species as *Staurastrum bicoronatum* var. *alpinum* and indicates its distribution area as the shore regions of mountain lakes at about 1500 m altitude.

Identification is best achieved with the apical view of the three-armed symmetry of *Staurastrum suchlandtianum*. The distal ends of the 3 arms each bear 3 spines. At about halfway along the arms, there are two double-pointed spines each, and around the center, 6 short double points group together in a circle (s. fig. 1 a).

In lateral view, one can see that the arms are slightly curved toward the equator. The apices are slightly convex, and the short double points can be seen there in lateral view (s. fig. 2 a-d).

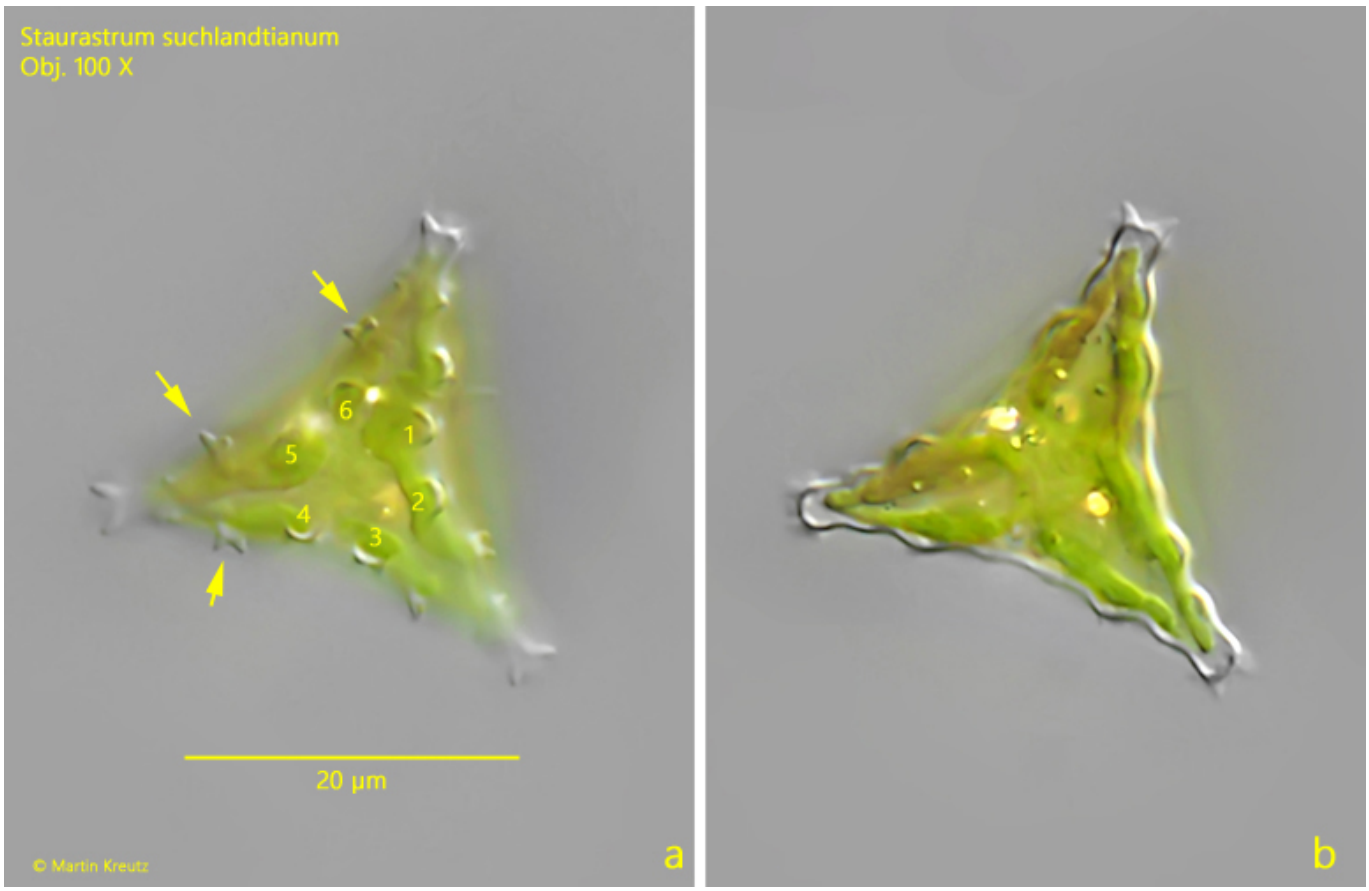


Fig. 1 a-b: *Staurastrum suchlandtianum*. D = 28 µm. Two focal planes in apical view. Note the double-pointed spines near the distal ends of the 3 arms (arrows) and the ring of 6 short double spines (1–6). Obj. 100 X.

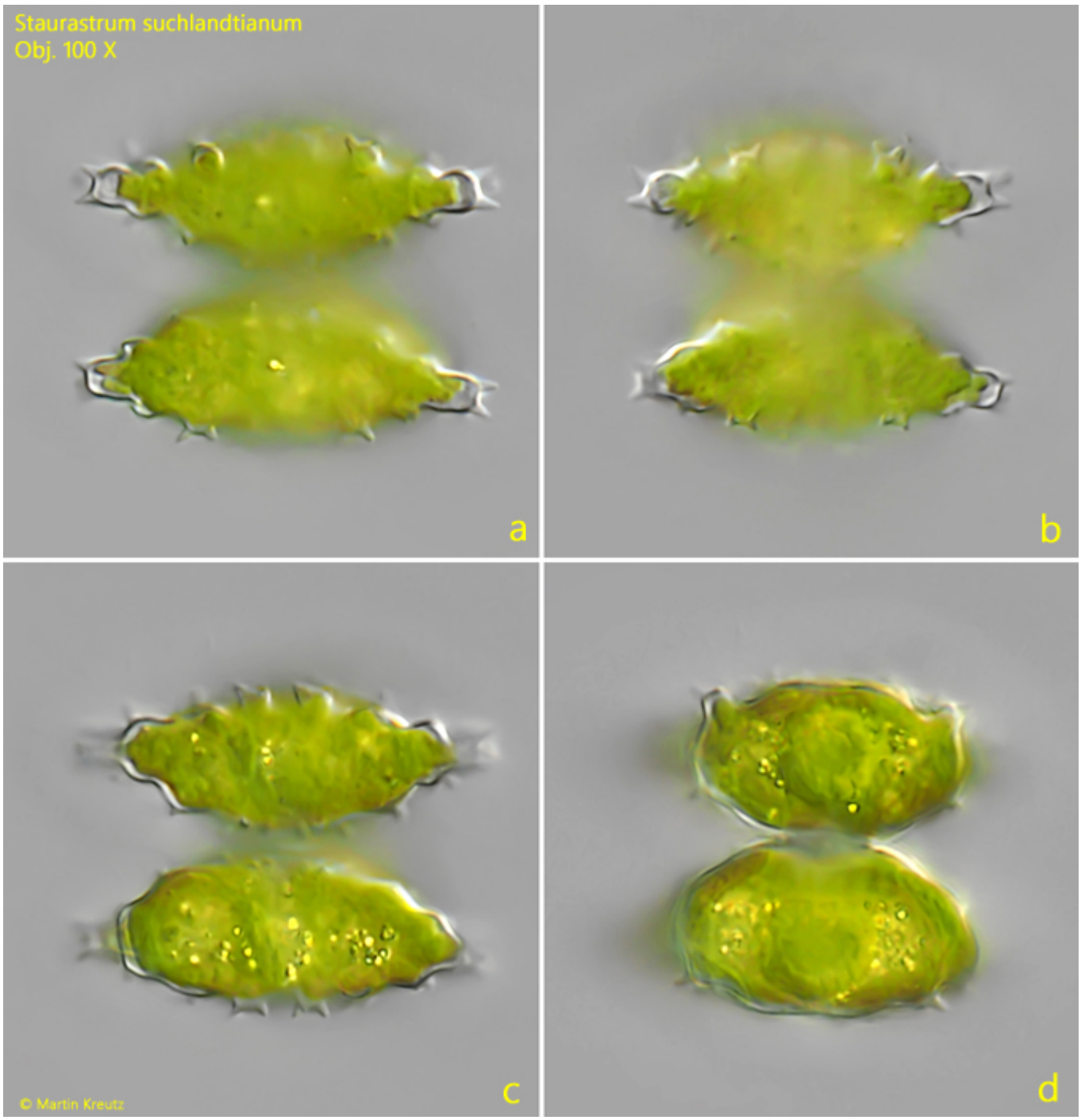


Fig. 2 a-d: *Staurastrum suchlandtianum*. L = 24 µm. Different focal planes from lateral view. Obj. 100 X.