

Staurodesmus boergesenii
(Messikommer) Croasdale, 1964

Most likely ID: n.a.

Synonym: *Arthrodesmus incus* var. *boergesenii*

Sampling location: [Schwemm Moor \(Austria\)](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Staurodesmus boergesenii](#)

Diagnosis:

- cells biradial
- length 17–18 µm, width 16–18 µm
- semi-cells inversely trapezoidal
- sides slightly convex
- each semi-cell with two short spines at the apical edges
- apices straight or very slightly convex
- isthmus about 5–6 µm wide
- each semi-cell with a central pyrenoid



Staurodesmus boergesenii

Staurodesmus boergesenii is easy to overlook in fresh samples due to its small size. From a sample about 2 weeks old from the [Schwemm Moor](#) in Austria, I was able to isolate and examine several specimens more closely in June 2025.

Characteristic are the 4 short spines that arise almost horizontally at the corners of

the flat apices, and the rather broad isthmus that only slightly separates the two semi-cells. The cell wall is smooth and without structure. In the cytoplasm there are some small granules, which are probably starch grains.

Staurodesmus boergesenii is easily confused with *Staurodesmus crassus*. Lenzenweger (1997) points out that *Staurodesmus crassus* has more strongly convex, arched apices. Since the apices in my population were almost flat, this must be *Staurodesmus boergesenii*.

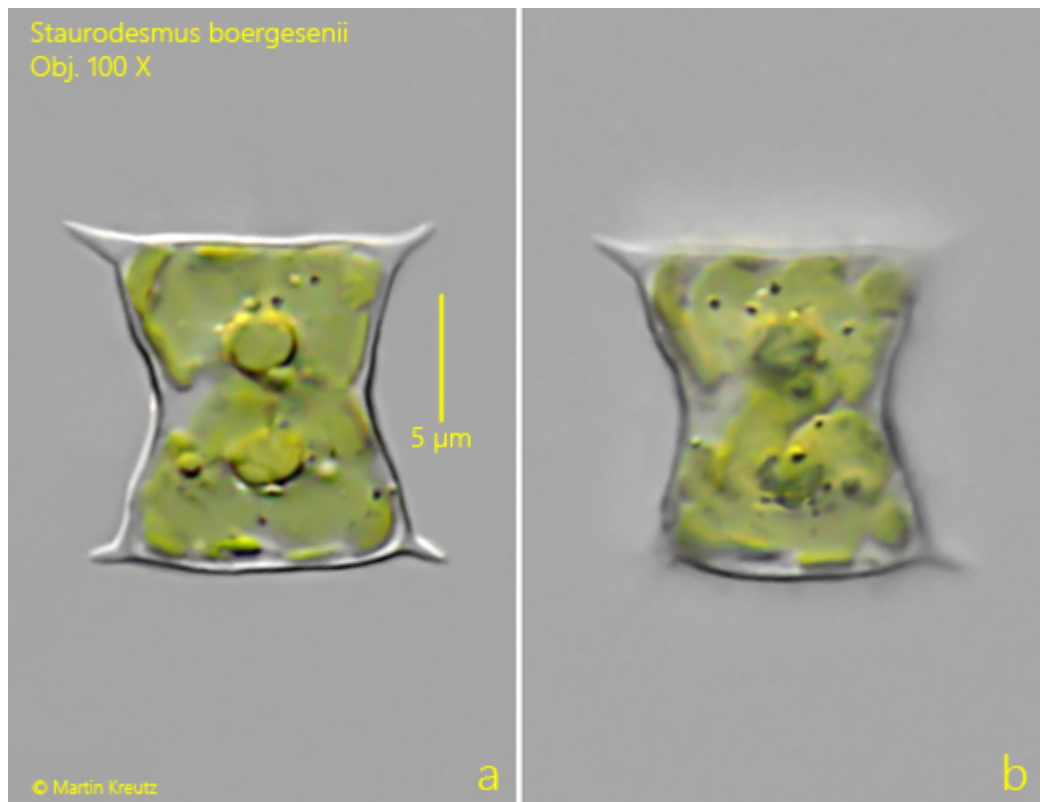


Fig. 1 a-b: *Staurodesmus boergesenii*. L = 14 µm. Two focal planes of a specimen found in June 2025 in the [Schwemm Moor](#). Obj. 100 X.