

***Stentor fuliginosus* (Forbes, 1891)**

Most likely ID: n.a.

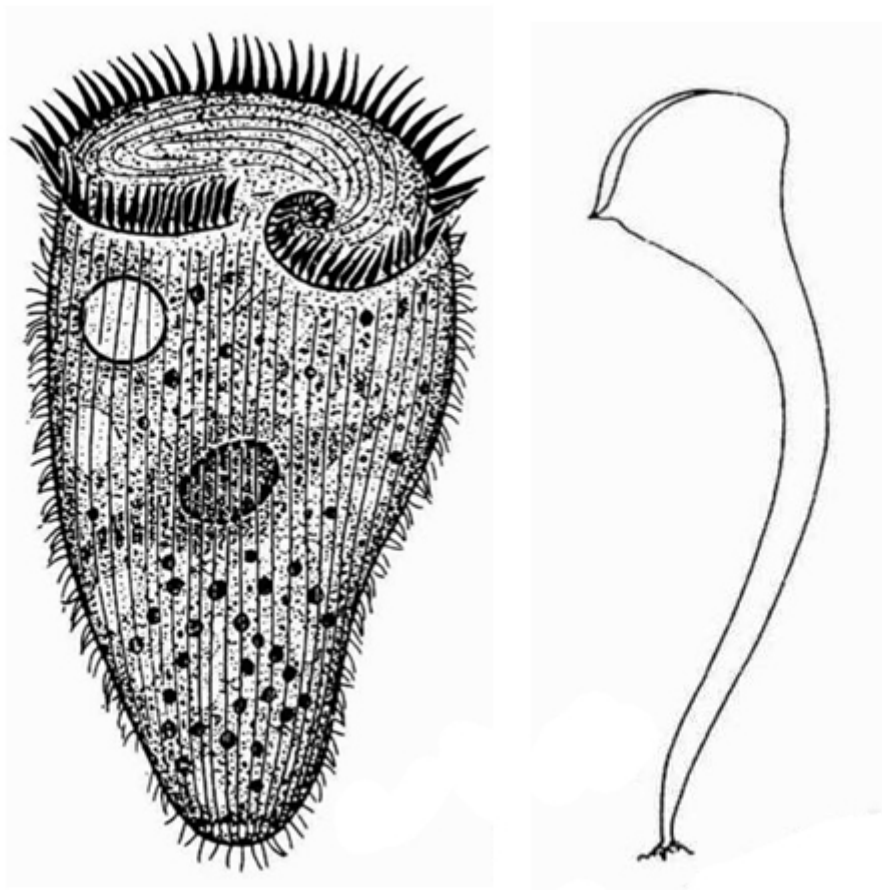
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: [Simmelried](#)

Phylogenetic tree: [Stentor fuliginosus](#)

Diagnosis:

- body slenderly trumpet shaped
- length 200–300 µm (of elongated specimens)
- macronucleus globular (sometimes 2–5 macronuclei)
- several micronuclei adjacent to the macronucleus
- color red-orange, orange-brown or yellow-brown due to pigment granules
- in brightfield illumination almost black due to symbiotic algae
- contractile in anterior third



after Dragesco & Kawaka

Stentor fuliginosus

Stentor fuliginosus is very common in the [Simmelried](#). I find this species mainly in spring and early summer. Often I could observe mass developments together with *Stentor amethystinus*. However, the number of *Stentor fuliginosus* was always significantly smaller compared to the population of *Stentor amethystinus*.

Stentor fuliginosus is a species in the genus *Stentor* that has been insufficiently described. In my population, all specimens were distinctly orange-brown in color. Some specimens were more weakly pigmented, showing off the green symbiotic algae more. The specimens were almost all about 300 μm long, and some were as long as 370 μm (when elongated). I could always observe only one, spherical macronucleus with 8-10 adjacent micronuclei. The micronuclei were not surrounded by a layer of pigment granules as it is the case in *Stentor amethystinus*. The pigment granules are not spherical (as in *Stentor amethystinus* and *Stentor coeruleus*), but varied in size and shape. They seemed to have with a more crystalline character (s. figs. 5 and 6). I always found the highest concentration of pigment granules in the cytoplasm. In the pellicle the granules were rather sparsely embedded and the stripe-like arrangement of the granules was not always recognizable (s. fig. 4). The pigment granules were mostly concentrated around the macronucleus and in the anterior third of the body.

In some individuals I could detect a mucous lorica. However, this was always only indirectly recognizable, by adhering bacteria (s. fig. 3 a-b). I assume that this lorica is build by *Stentor fuliginosus* itself, although I could not observe the process. The presence of a lorica has not yet been described for *Stentor fuliginosus*.

I was able to examine the symbiotic algae of *Stentor fuliginosus* in detail (s. fig. 6). They are not of the *Chlorella* type, because they have a pyrenoid and the chloroplast is also not bell-shaped. Furthermore, these algae are larger than *Chlorella* with a diameter of up to 7.7 μm . I could recognize an own cell nucleus in some of these symbiotic algae, but unfortunately I could not document it photographically.



Fig. 1: *Stentor fuliginosus*. A group of specimens settled in an empty carapace of a water flea. Obj. 10 X.

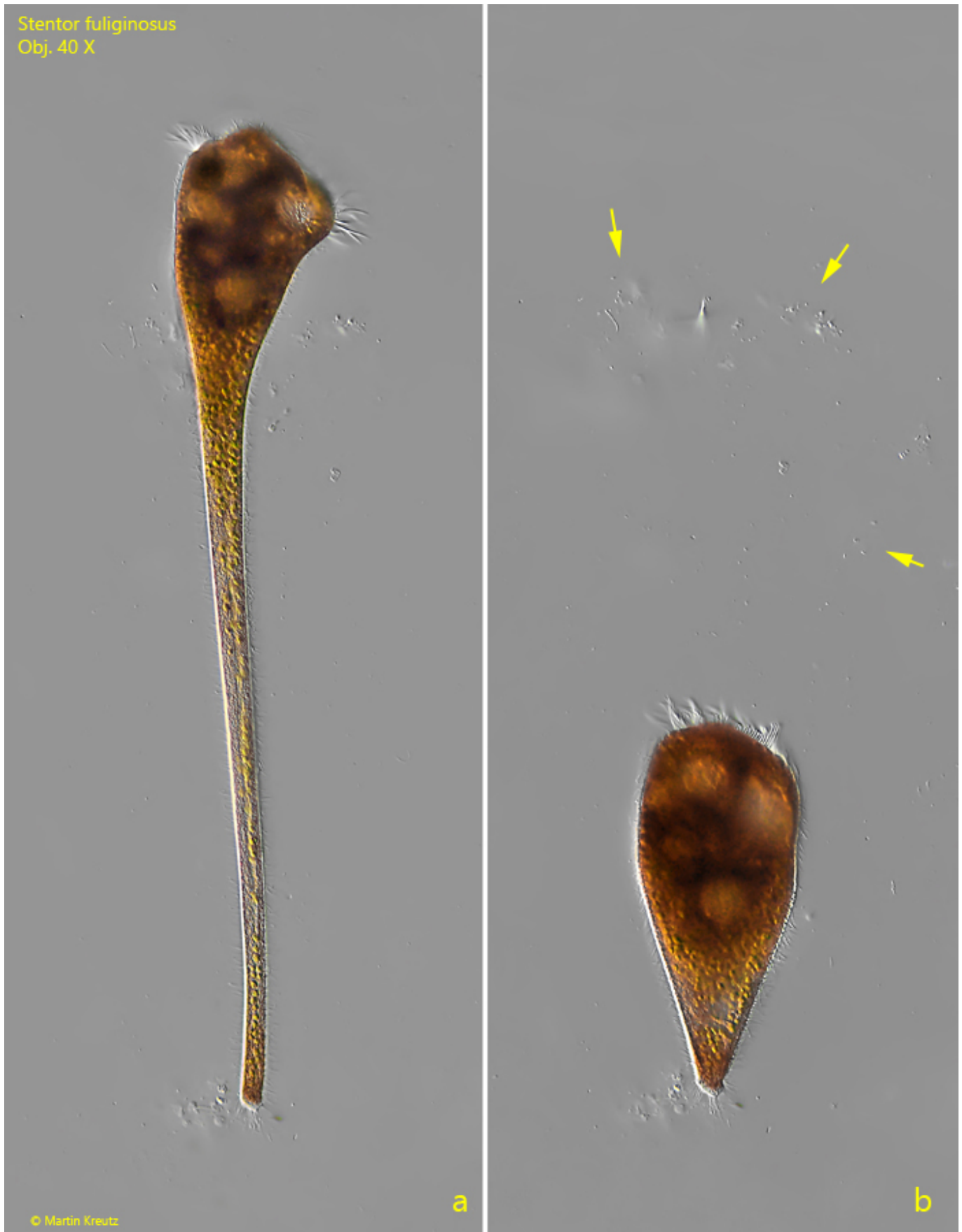


Fig. 2 a-b: *Stentor fuliginosus*. An elongated specimen (a) with a length of 297 μm and the same specimen contracted (b) with a length of 115 μm . Due to attached bacteria a delicate mucous lorica is visible (arrows). Obj. 40 X.

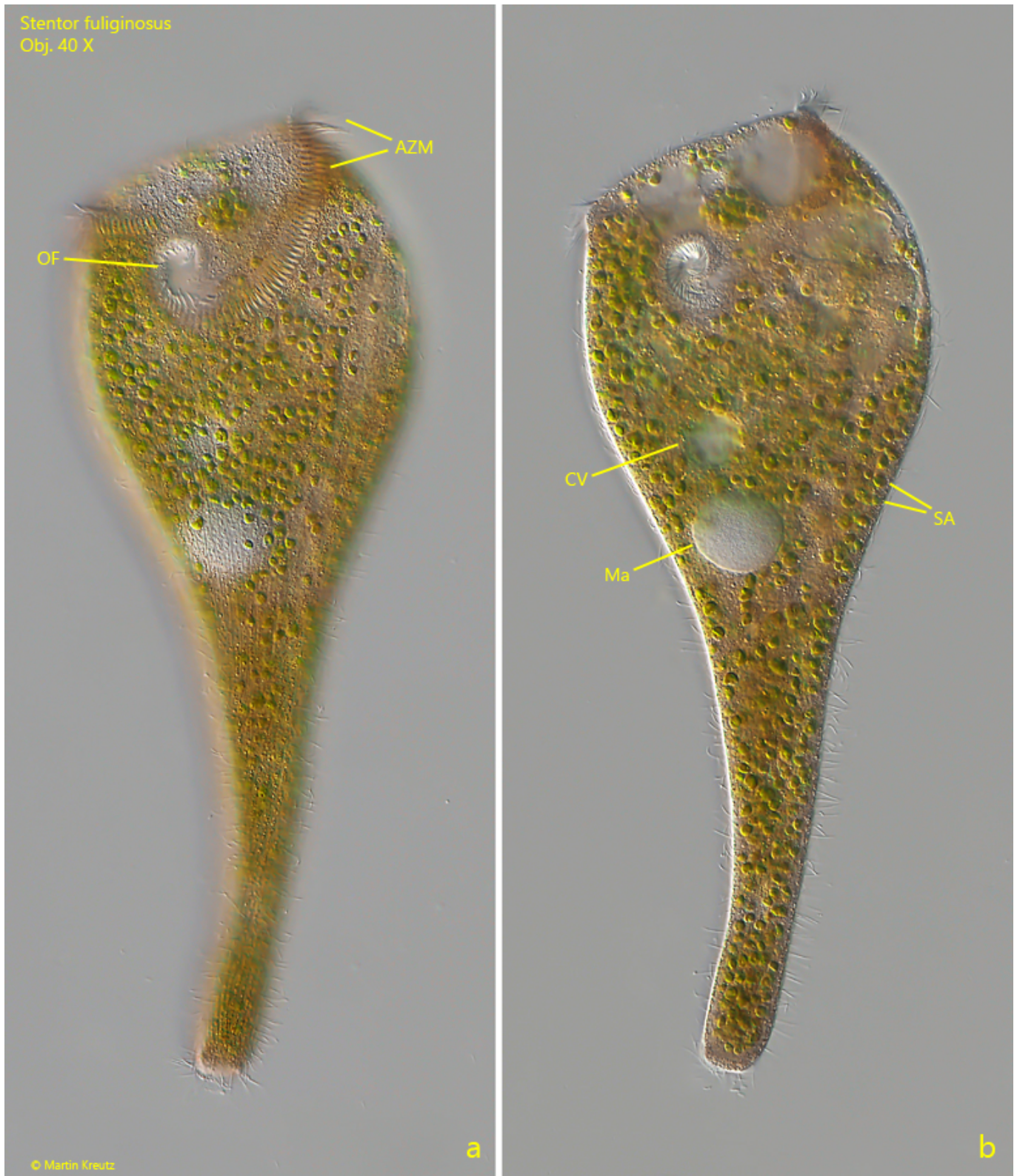
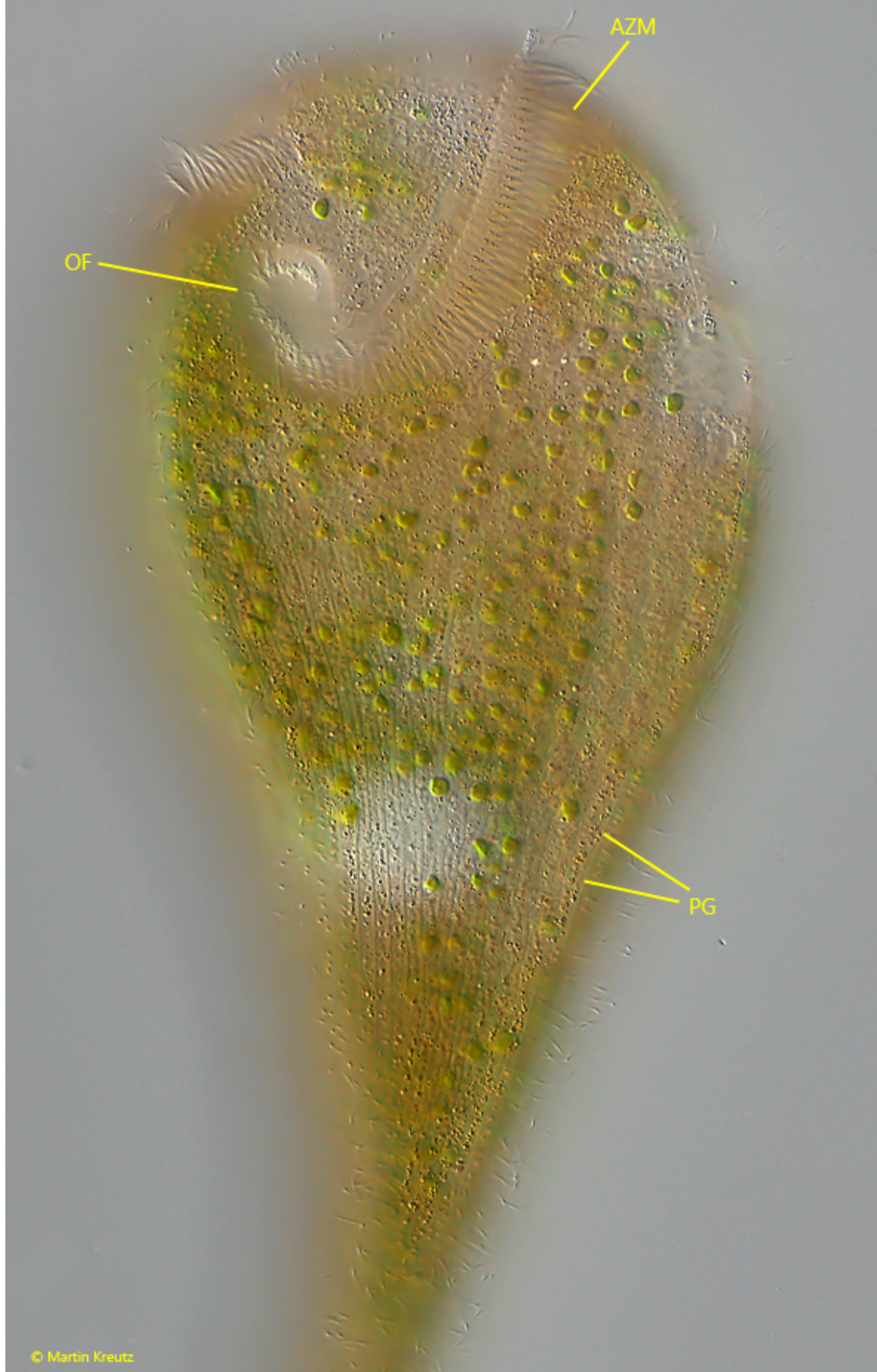


Fig. 3 a-b: *Stentor fuliginosus*. L = 320 μ m. Two focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, CV = contractile vacuole, Ma = macronucleus, OF = oral funnel, SA = symbiotic algae. Obj. 40 X.

Stentor fuliginosus
Obj. 60 X



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Fig. 4: *Stentor fuliginosus*. Focal plane on the pellicle of the same specimen shown in fig. 3 a-b. The pigment granules (PG) are of different size and not spherical. Only a low concentration is embedded in the pellicle, so that their stripe-like arrangement is not easy to recognize. The highest concentration of the pigment granules is in the cytoplasm. AZM = adoral zone of membranelles, OF = oral funnel. Obj. 60 X.

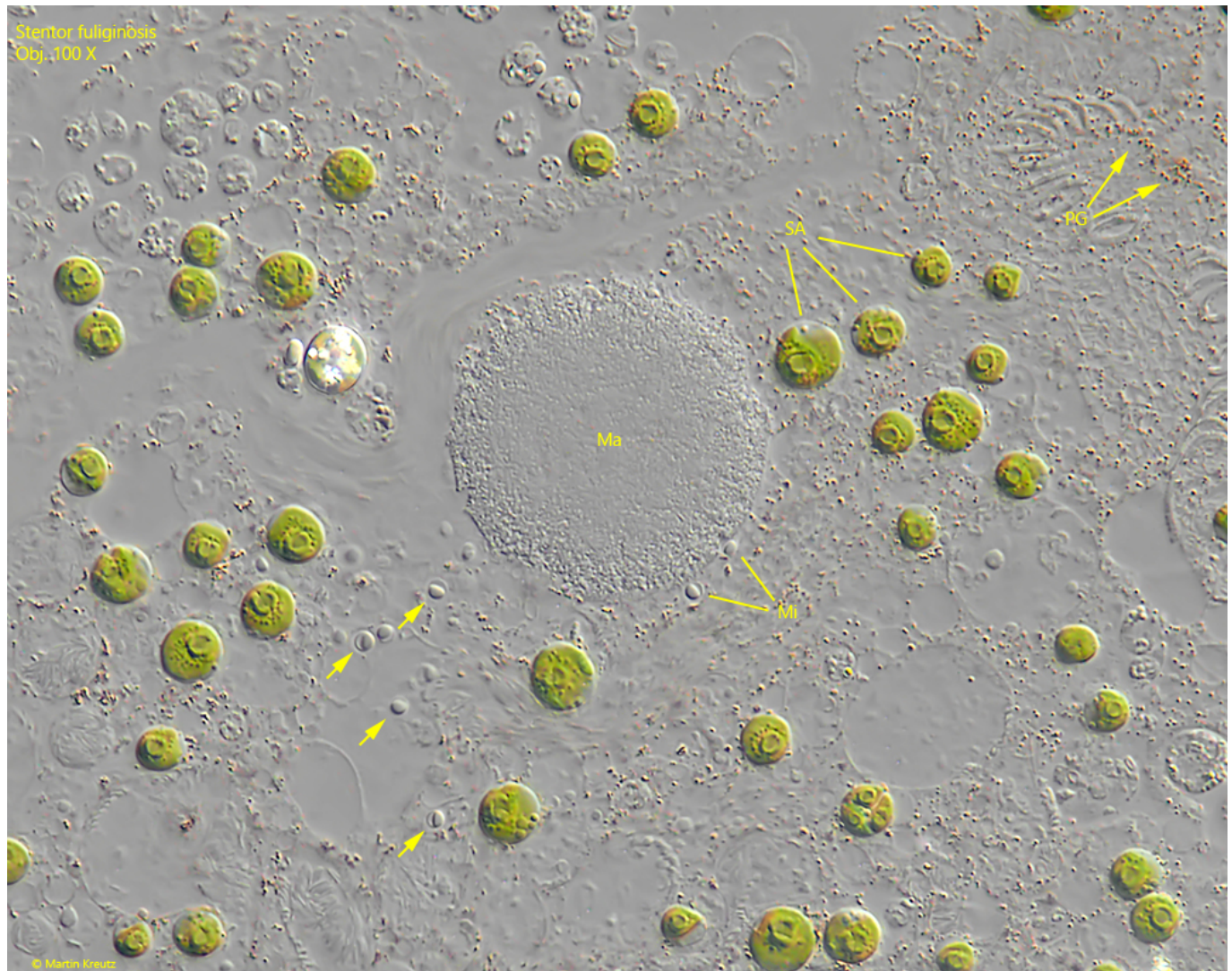


Fig. 5: *Stentor fuliginosus*. The globular macronucleus (Ma) and the adjacent micronuclei (Mi) in a strongly squashed specimen. Note the micronuclei in the cytoplasm (arrows) detached from the macronucleus due to the coverslip pressure. PG = pigment granules in the cytoplasm. Obj. 100 X.

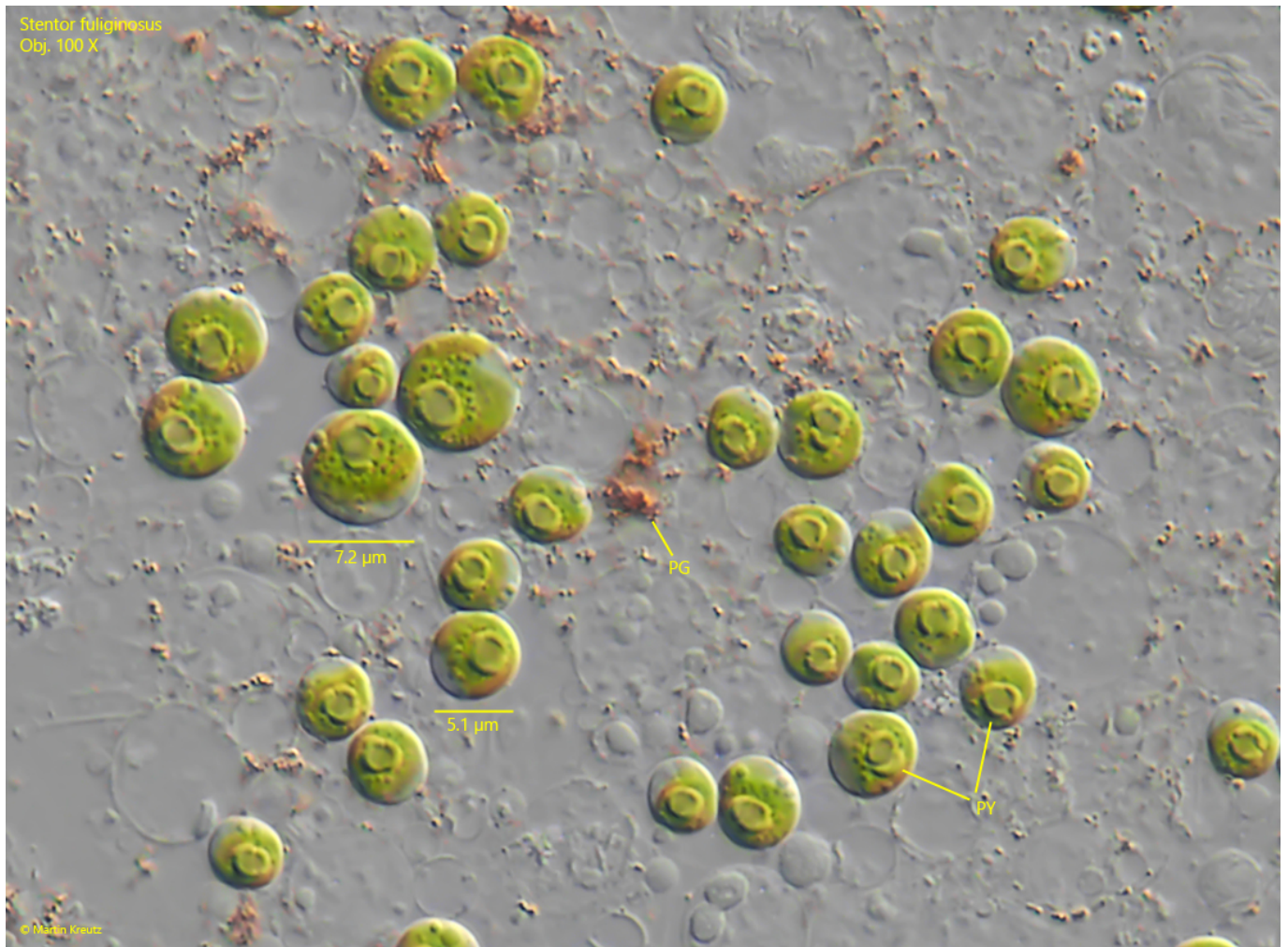


Fig. 6: *Stentor fuliginosus*. The symbiotic algae in the cytoplasm in detail. The algae are not from the *Chlorella* type. A distinct pyrenoid with a shell of starch grains is present (in each cell) and the chloroplast is not bell-shaped. The size of the symbiotic algae is 4.5–7.5 μm . PG = pigment granules in the cytoplasm. Obj. 100 X.