Taphrocampa annulosa Gosse, 1851

Most likely ID: n.a.

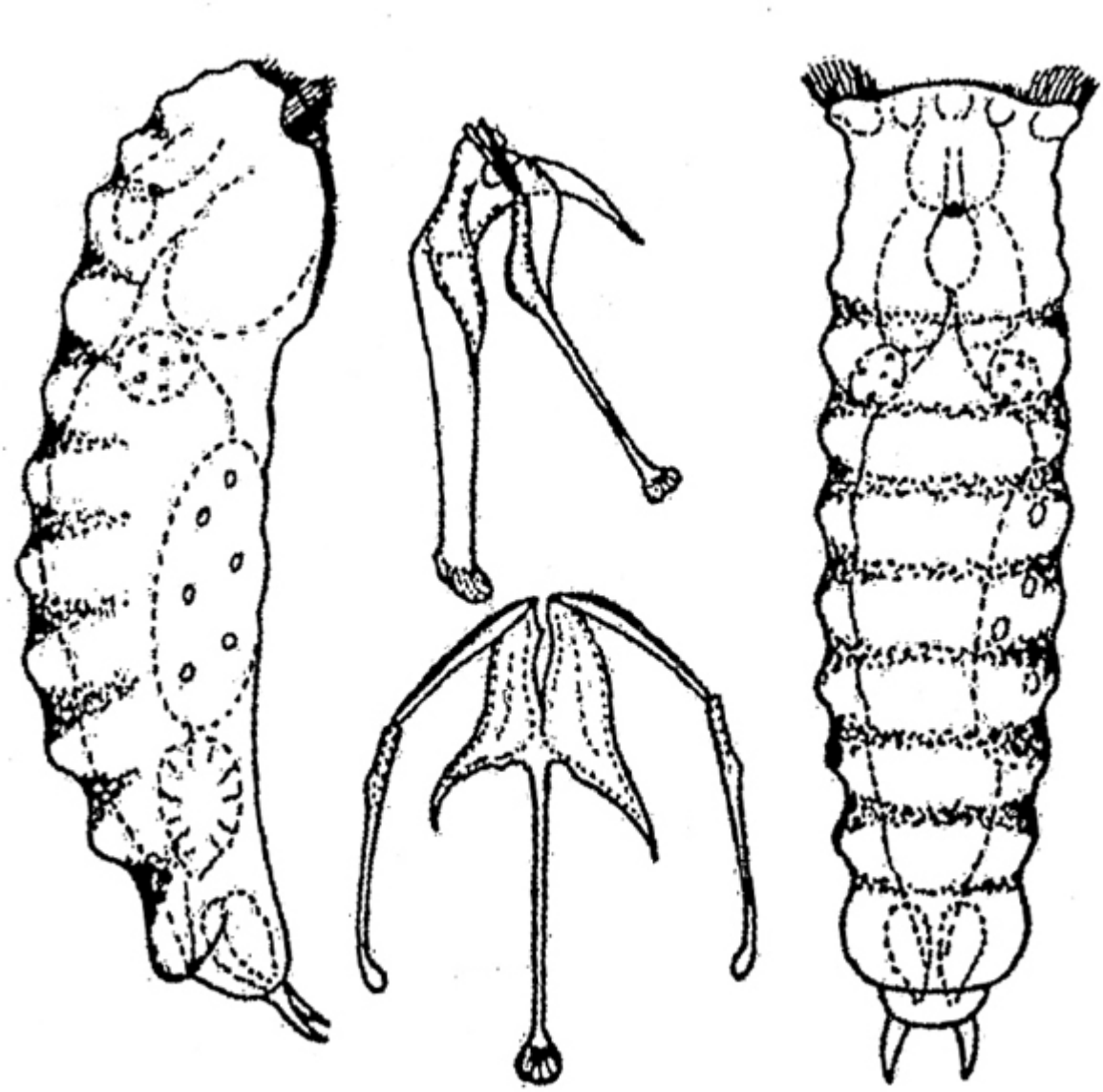
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Simmelried

Phylogenetic tree: ***Taphrocampa annulosa***

Diagnosis:

- body stout or elongate, worm- or spindle-shaped
- length 140–230 µm
- dorsal epidermis sticky with transverse folds
- epidermis soft or somewhat stiffened
- foot rudimentary, toes short, conical and slightly curved
- no bumps between the toes
- wheel organ of *Notommata*-type
- auricles retractable
- retrocerebral organ with attached eyespot



after Harring & Myers

Taphrocampa annulosa

So far I have found only a few specimens of *Taphrocampa annulosa*. All findings are from the Simmelried. Mostly I discover the specimens when they glide along floating coverslips on their ventral side. The genus *Taphrocampa* is easily recognized by the folded dorsal epidermis. To distinguish the two similar species *Taphrocampa annulosa* and *Taphrocampa selenura*, the shape of the toes must be considered. In *Taphrocampa annulosa*, the toes are short, curved inward, and taper to a blunt tip. In *Taphrocampa selenura* the toes are much longer, saber-shaped, and curved inward to a sharp point. In my specimens, the toes were short and blunt, so *Taphrocampa annulosa* is present here.

The dorsal epidermis of *Taphrocampa annulosa* is described to be sticky, so

adherent foreign particles and bacteria are often found on it. With my (few) specimens I could not observe this.

More images and information on *Taphrocampa annulosa*: [Michael Plewka-Freshwater life-*Taphrocampa annulosa*]



Fig. 1 a-c: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. L = 178 µm. Ventral view of a freely gliding specimen. Obj. 60 X.

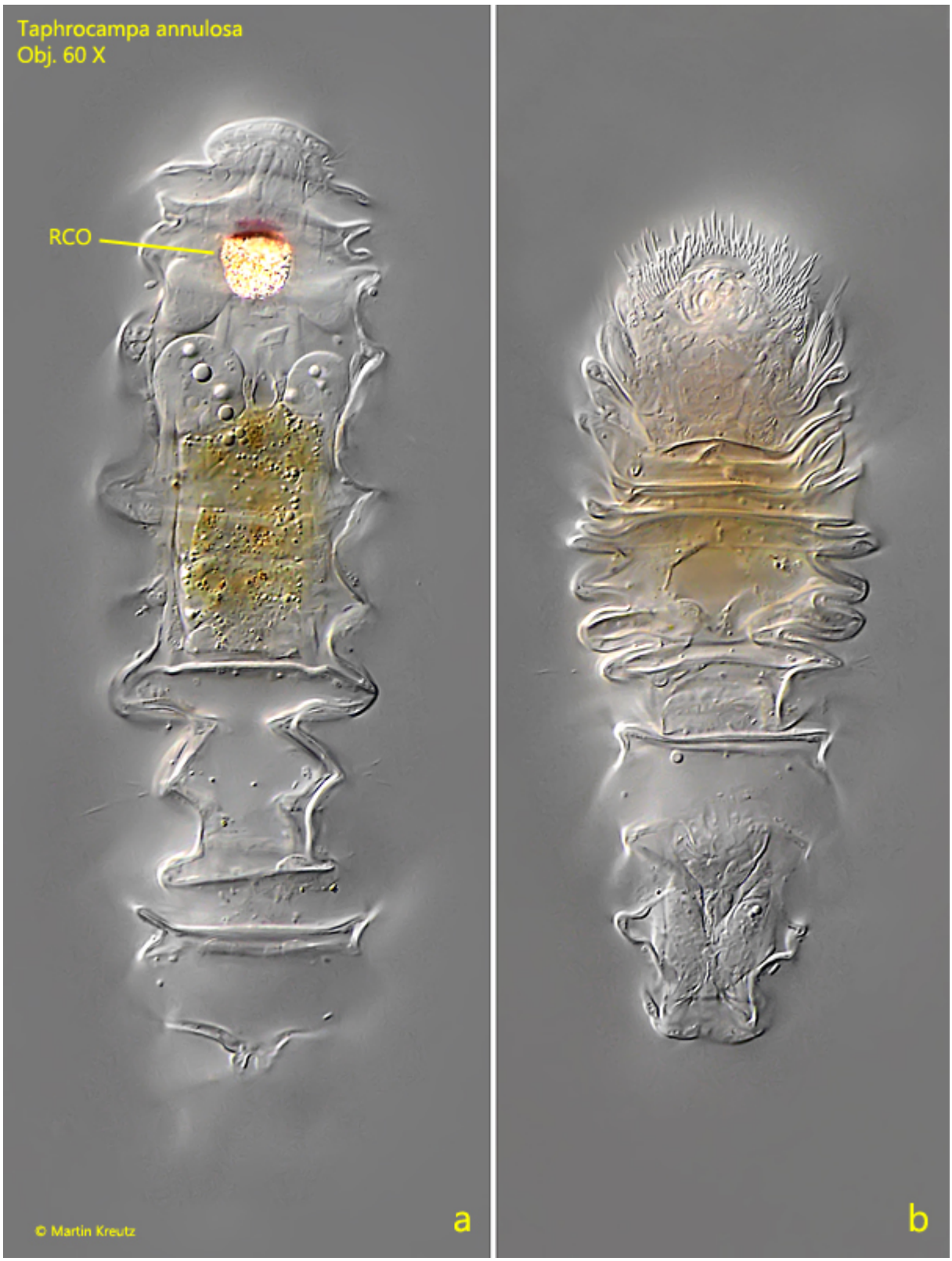


Fig. 2 a-b: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. L = 178 µm. Dorsal view of the same specimen shown in fig. 1 a-c. Note typical transversal folds especially in the contracted specimen (b). The retrocerebral organ (RCO) shining brightly in DIC. Obj. 60 X.



Fig. 3 a-c: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. L = 201 µm. A second specimen in ventral view. TO = toes. Obj. 60 X.



Fig. 4 a-c: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. L = 201 µm. Lateral view from left of the same specimen shown in fig. 3 a-c. Note the lateral antenna (LA) and the dorsal folds (DF) of the epidermis. Obj. 60 X.

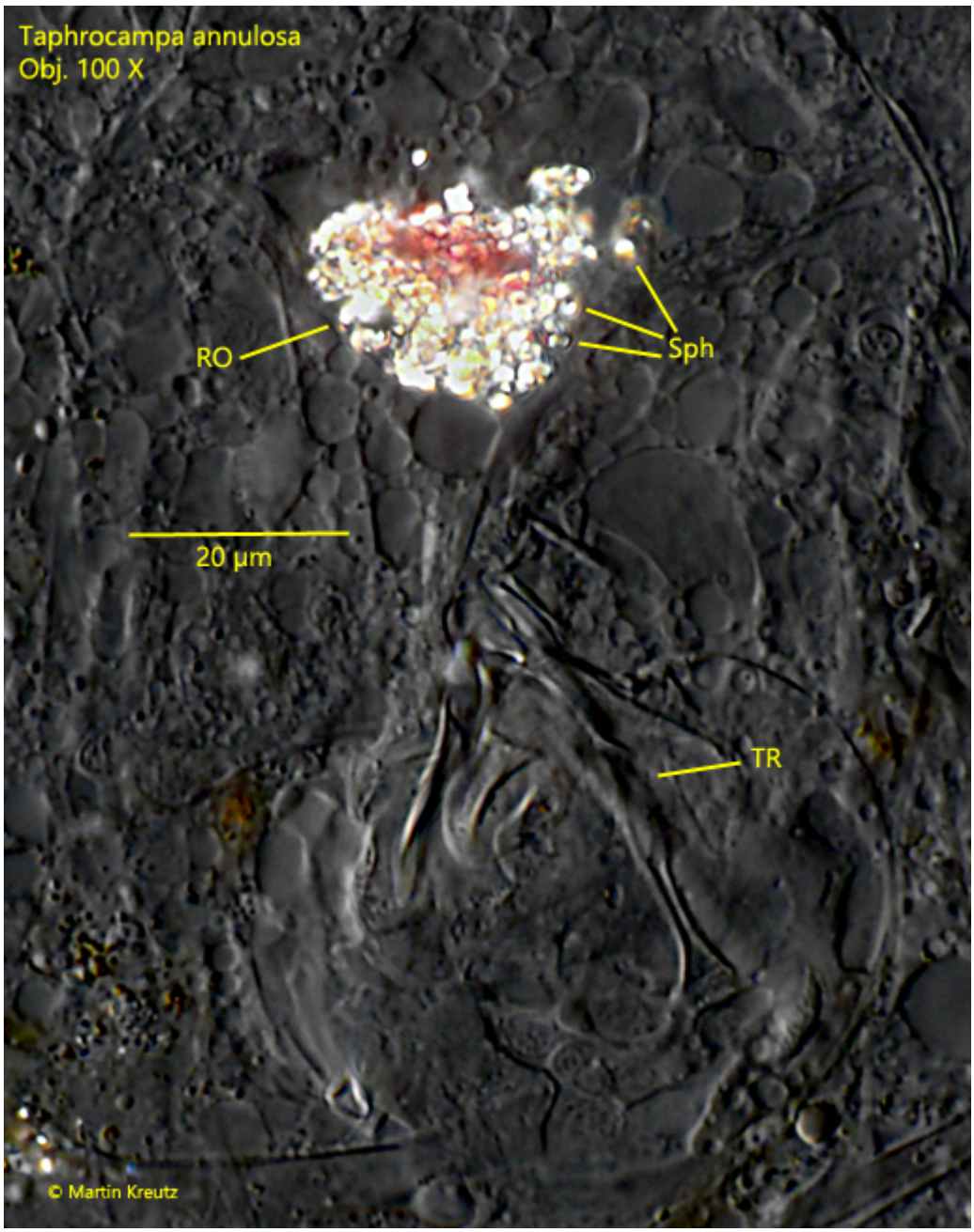


Fig. 5: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. The retrocerebral organ (RO) in a strongly squashed specimen. It consists of many birefringent spherules (Sph). TR = trophi. Obj. 100 X.

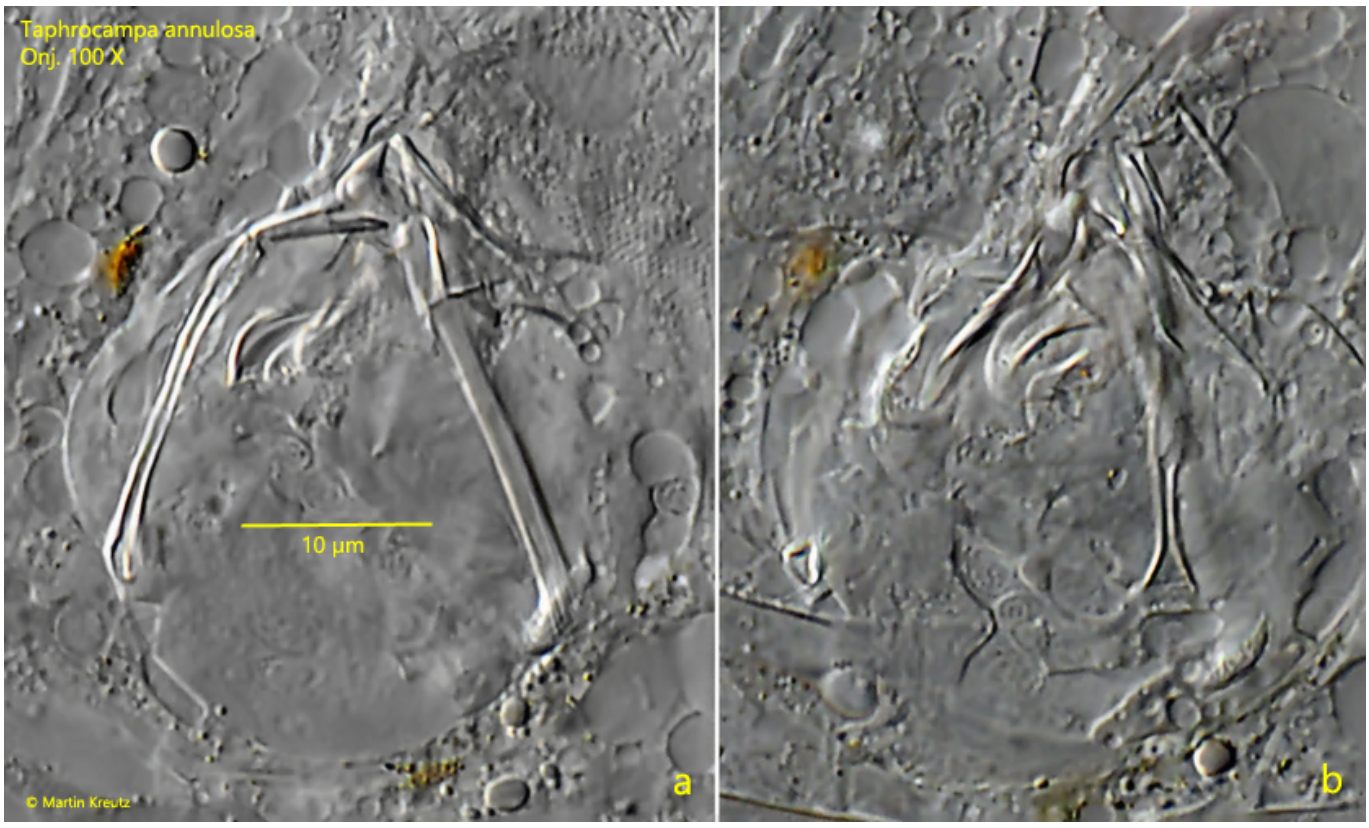


Fig. 6 a-b: *Taphrocampa annulosa*. Two focal planes of the trophi in a strongly squashed specimen. TR = trophi. Obj. 100 X.