

***Urceolus cyclostomus***  
**(Stein) Mereschkowsky, 1879**

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

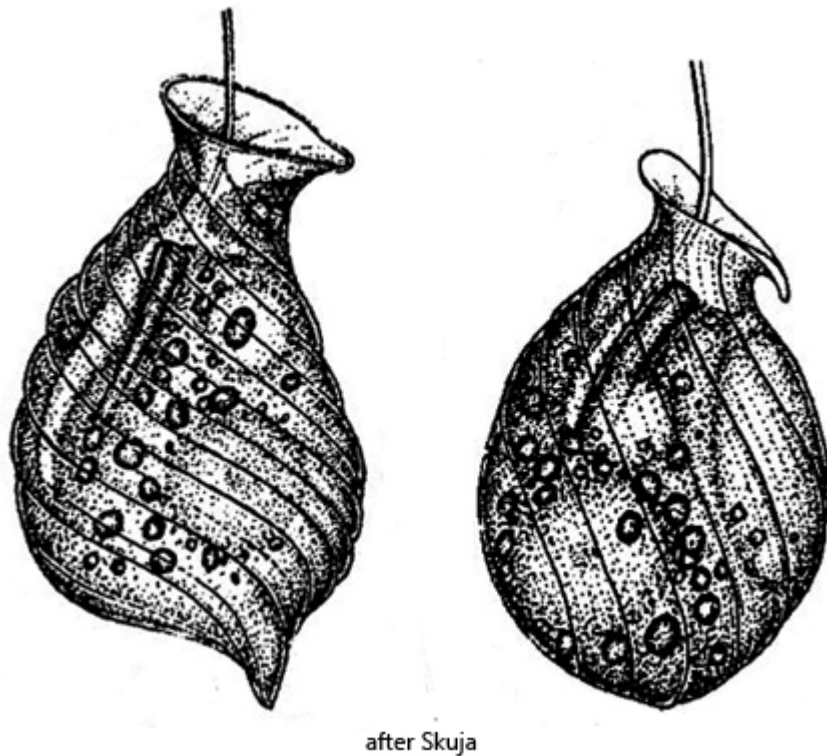
**Synonym:** n.a.

**Sampling location:** [Simmelried](#), [Ulmisried](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Urceolus cyclostomus](#)

**Diagnosis:**

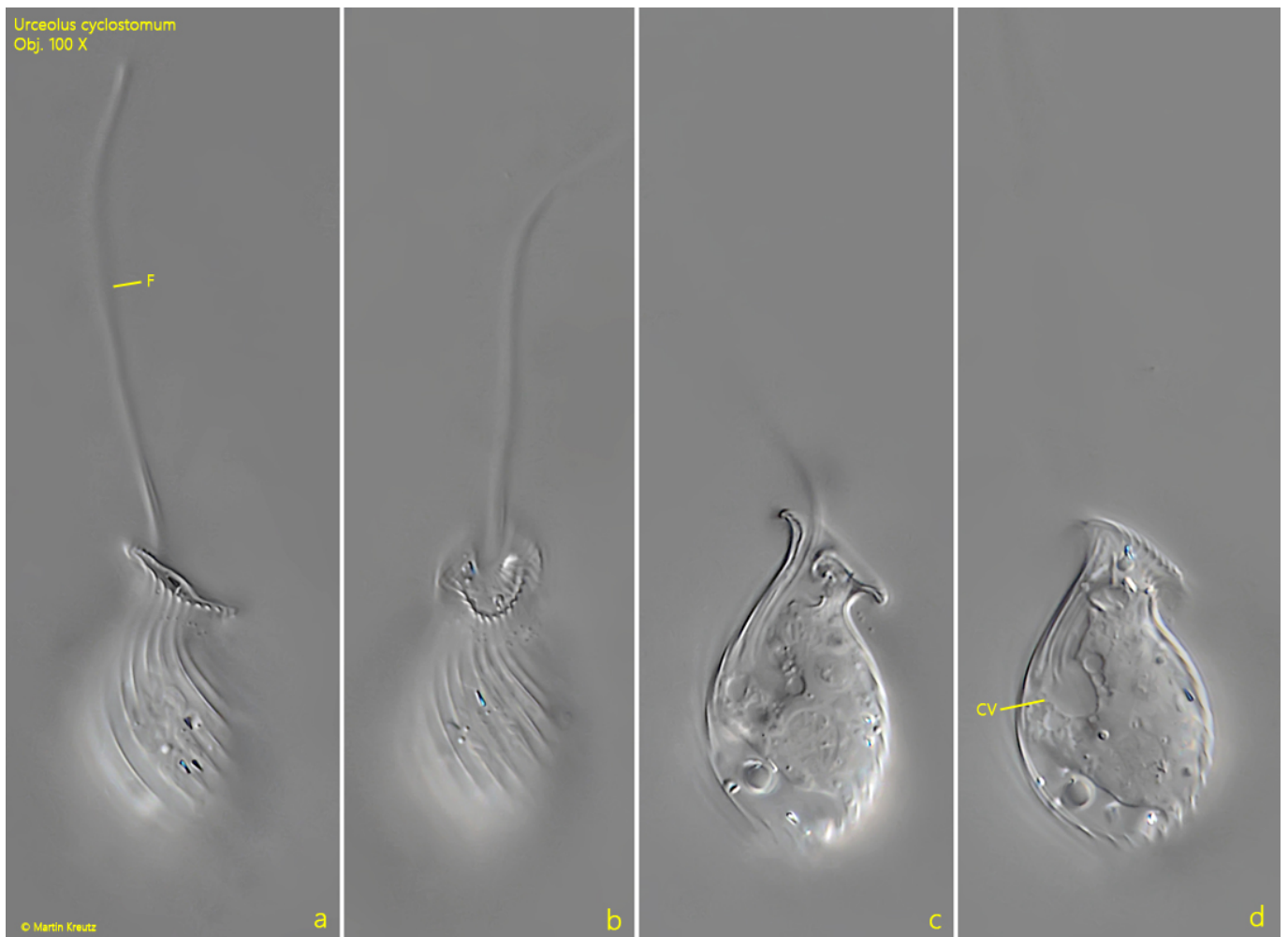
- body flask-shaped or oviform
- posterior end tapered or round
- length 25–40 µm
- neck funnel-like
- cytostome with rod-shaped ingestion organelle
- reservoir with associated contractile vacuole
- distinct striation of pellicle
- spherical nucleus large, in posterior half
- a single flagellum, 2–3 of body length



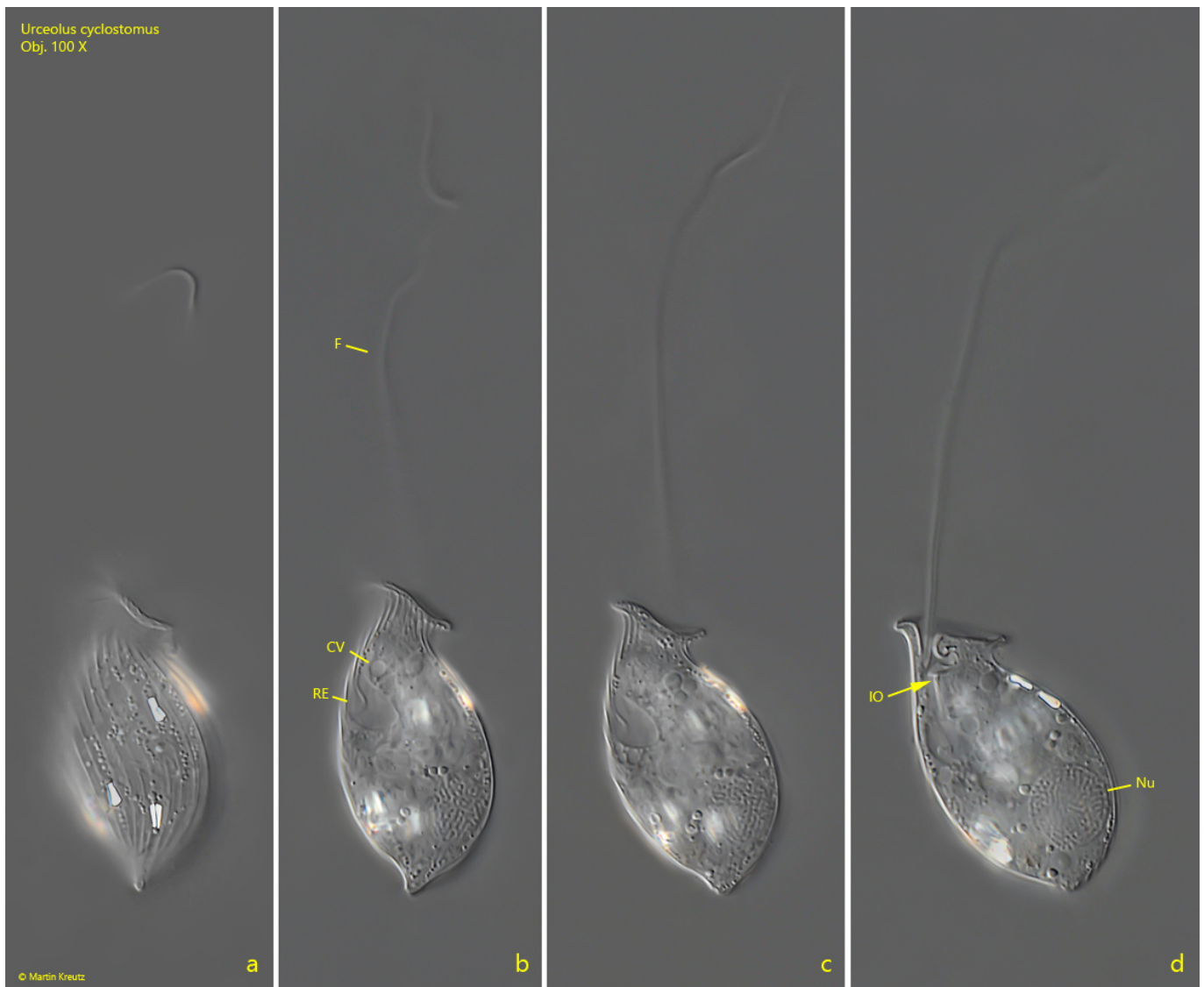
after Skuja

### Urceolus cyclostomus

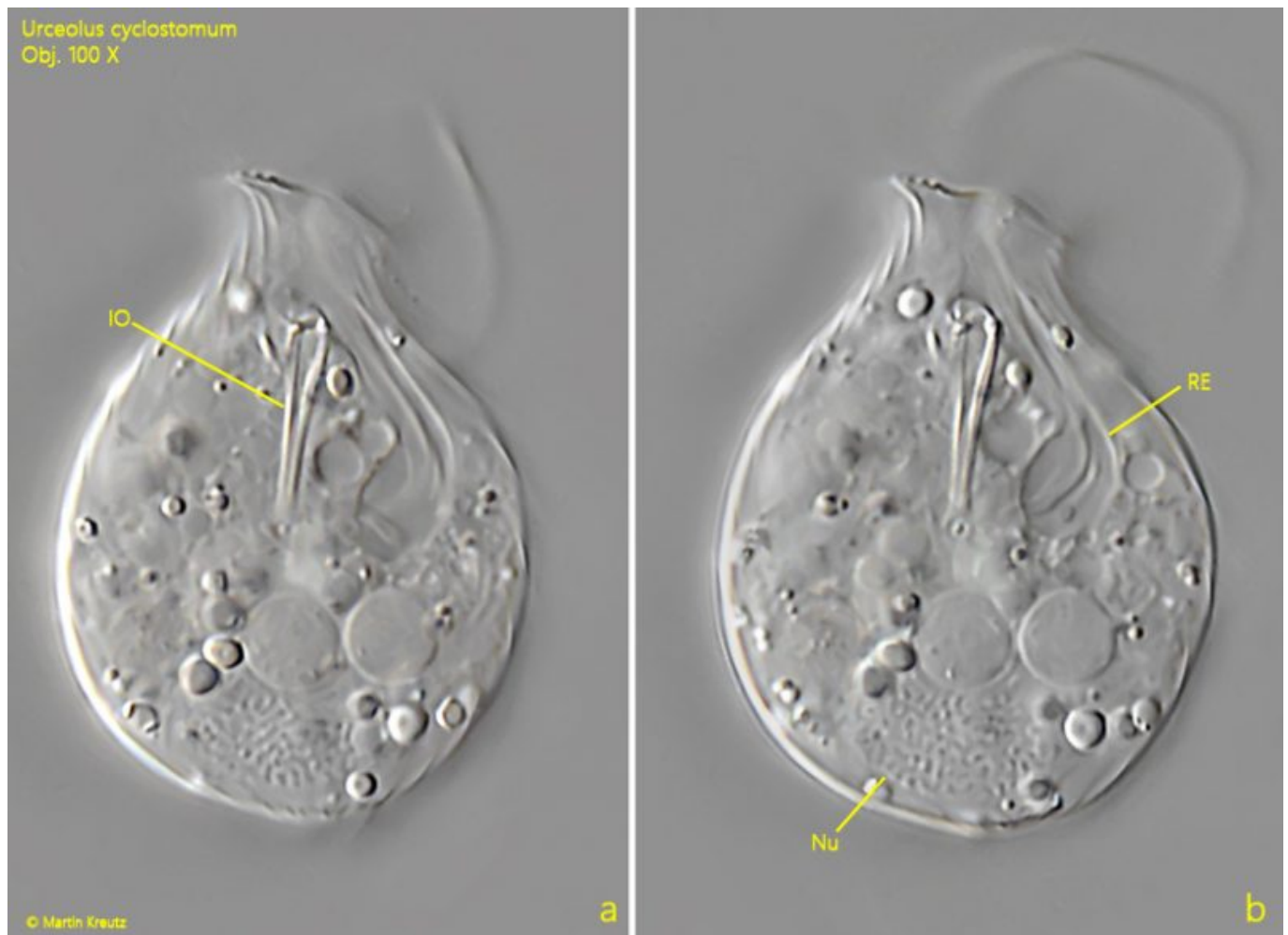
I only very rarely find *Urceolus cyclostomus*. Mostly the specimens are mixed with detritus flakes. The species is easy to recognize by the funnel-like mouth opening and the distinct spiral striation of the pellicle, which runs counterclockwise. The rod-shaped ingestion organelle becomes visible in squashed specimens (s. fig. 3 a-b). The comparatively large nucleus is located in the rear third of the body (s. fig. 2 d). The flagellum is very long. When swimming, only the distal end rotates. Skuja (1956) also describes specimens with a broadly rounded posterior end (s. drawing above); in my population all specimens had a pointed posterior end (s. fig. 2 b).



**Fig. 1 a-d:** *Urceolus cyclostomus*. L = 35  $\mu$ m. Different focal planes of a freely swimming specimen. CV = contractile vacuole, F = flagellum. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 2 a-d:** *Urceolus cyclostomus*. L = 37  $\mu$ m. Different focal planes of a second freely swimming specimen. CV = contractile vacuole, F = flagellum, IO = rod-shaped ingestion organell, Nu = nucleus, RE = reservoir. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 3 a-b:** *Urceolus cyclostomus*. The ingestion organell (IO) in a squashed specimen. Nu = nucleus, RE = reservoir. Obj. 100 X.