Urceolus cyclostomus

(Stein) Mereschkowsky, 1879

Most likely ID: n.a.

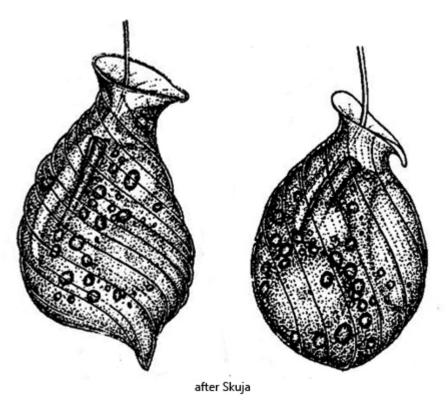
Synonym: n.a.

Sampling location: Simmelried, Ulmisried

Phylogenetic tree: <u>Urceolus cyclostomus</u>

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



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).

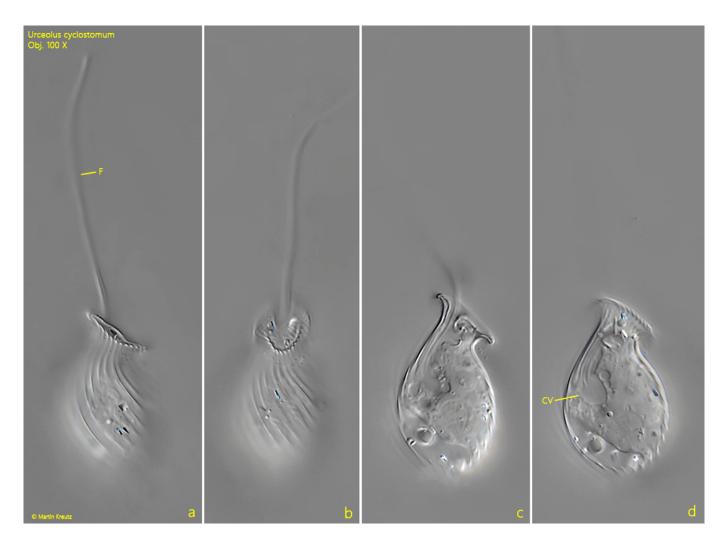


Fig. 1 a-d: $Urceolus\ cyclostomus$. L = 35 μm . Different focal planes of a freely swimming specimen. CV = contractile vacuole, F = flagellum. Obj. 100 X.

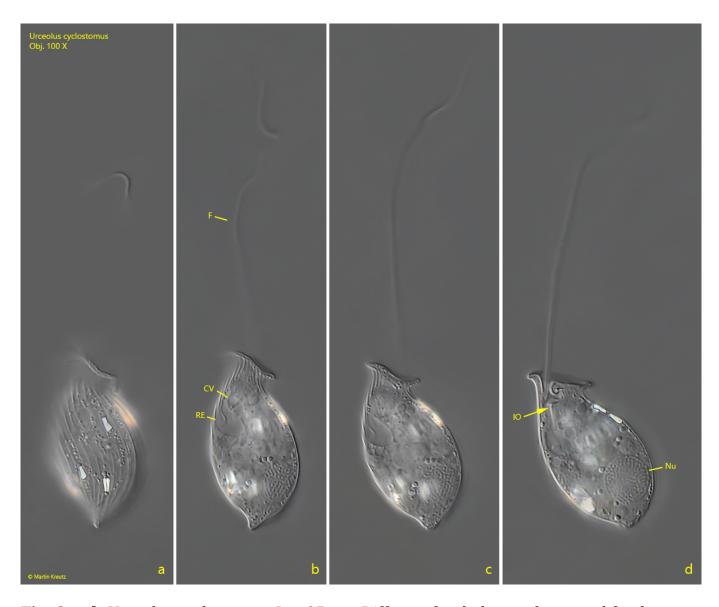


Fig. 2 a-d: *Urceolus cyclostomus.* $L=37~\mu m.$ Different focal planes of a second freely swimming specimen. CV= contractile vacuole, F= flagellum, IO= rod-shaped ingestion organell, Nu= nucleus, RE= reservoir. Obj. 100 X.

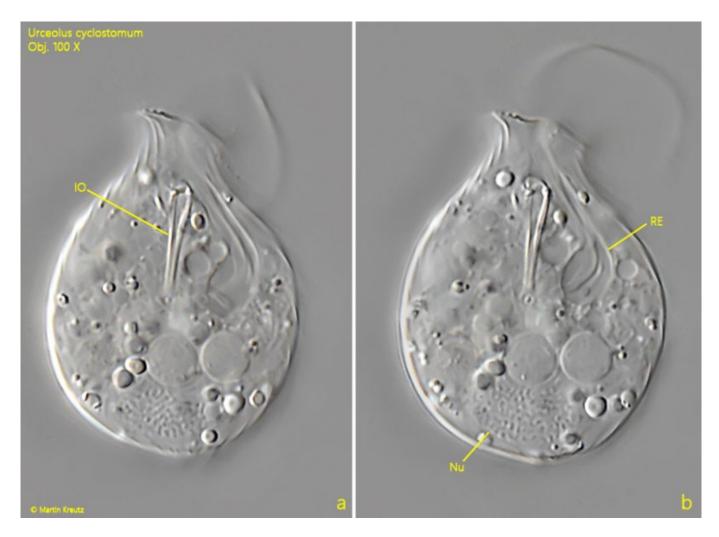


Fig. 3 a-b: $Urceolus\ cyclostomus$. The ingestion organell (IO) in a squashed specimen. Nu = nucleus, RE = reservoir. Obj. 100 X.