

## ***Urotricha ovata* Kahl, 1926**

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

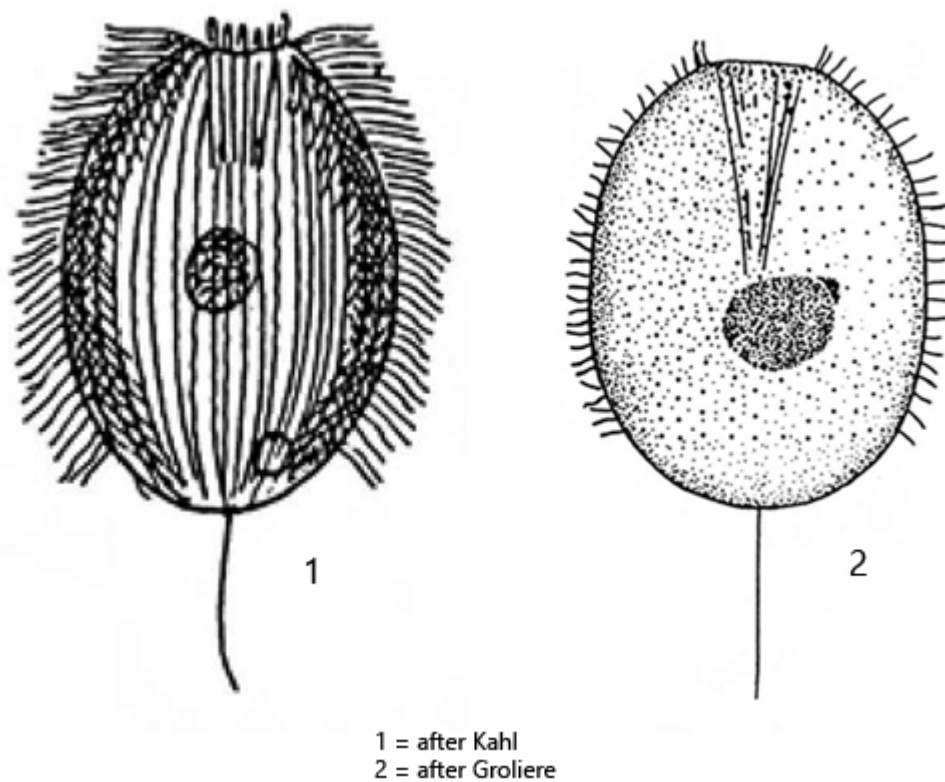
**Synonym:** n.a.

**Sampling location:** [Ulmisried](#), [Bussenried](#), [Bündtlisried](#), [Mühlhalden pond](#), [Purren pond](#), [Mainau pond](#), [Simmelried](#)

**Phylogenetic tree:** [Urotricha ovata](#)

### **Diagnosis:**

- body ellipsoidal, sometimes cylindrical
- length 38–53 µm
- 19–27 longitudinal rows of cilia
- cytopharynx apical
- fringe of scattered, inconspicuous extrusomes
- macronucleus globular with an adjacent micronucleus
- posterior sixth of body naked
- one caudal cilium
- movement jumping and spinning



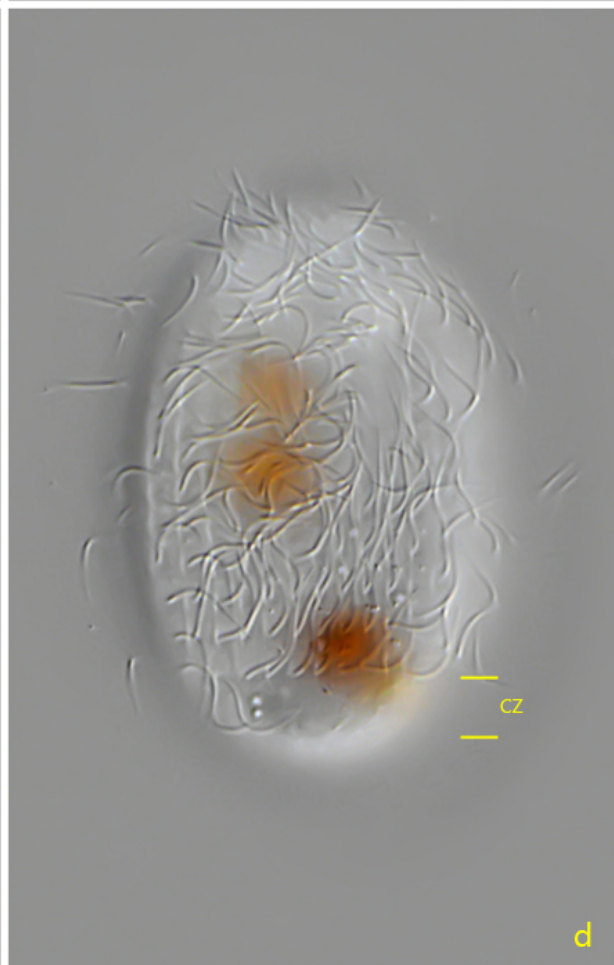
### *Urotricha ovata*

*Urotricha ovata* is a widespread ciliate, which I could detect in almost all my localities. Especially in old samples with decaying plant masses it is often found.

It is easy to confuse *Urotricha ovata* with the similar species *Urotricha armata*. The latter, however, has a dense fringe of extrusomes arranged in parallel to each other. In *Urotricha ovata*, the extrusomes are scattered under the pellicle and are not arranged in parallel (s. figs. 2 a and 2 b). In addition, the number of longitudinal rows of cilia in *Urotricha armata* is much higher (35–51) than in *Urotricha ovata*, where there are only 19–27 rows (s. fig. 1 b).

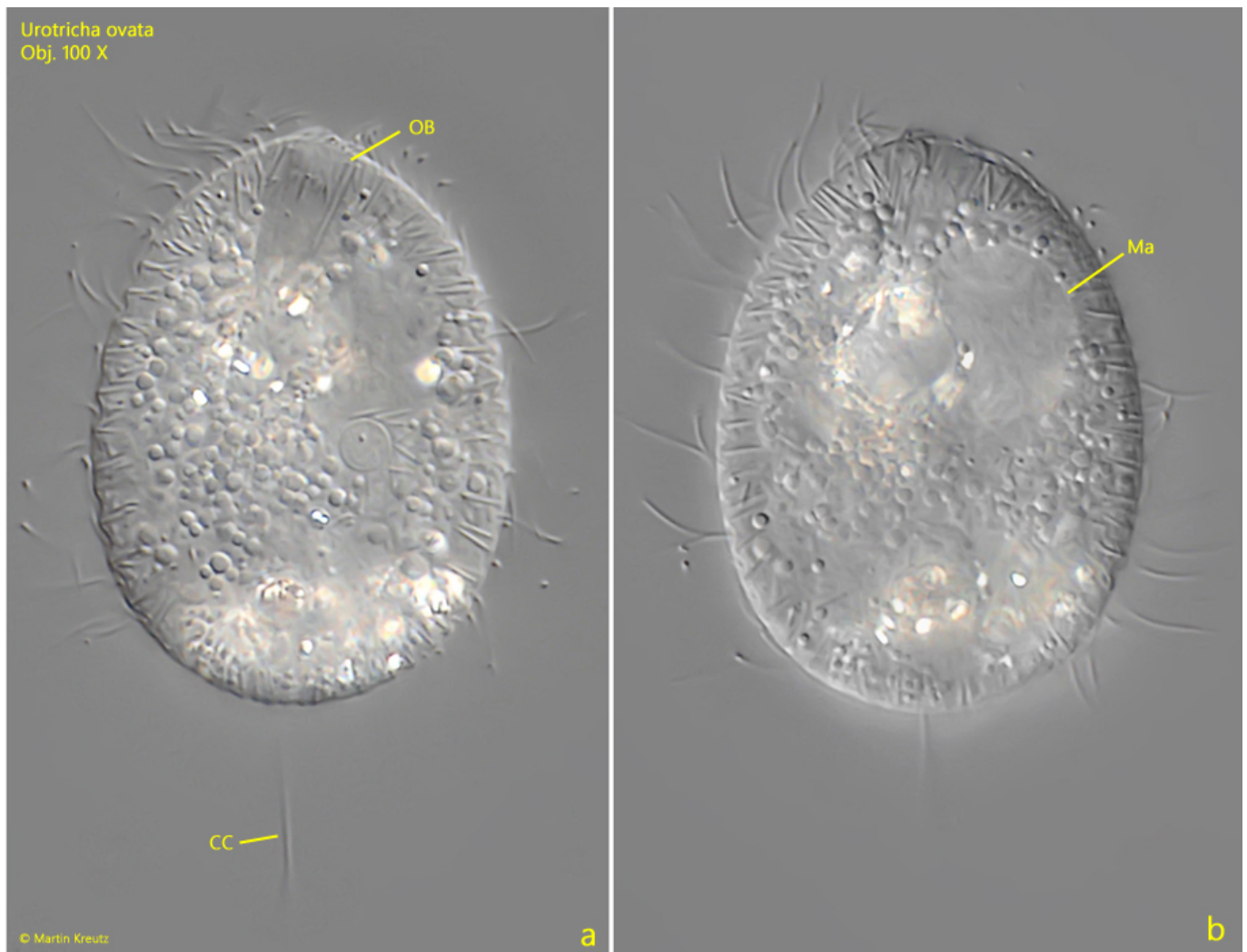


**Fig. 1 a-b:** *Urotricha ovata*. L = 43  $\mu$ m. Two focal planes of a freely swimming specimen. Note the longitudinal rows of cilia (CR). This specimen has 24 rows of cilia. CC = caudal cilium, CV = contractile vacuole, CP = cytopharynx, Ma = macronucleus, Mi = micronucleus. Obj. 60 X.





**Fig. 2 a-d:** *Urotricha ovata*. L = 43  $\mu\text{m}$ . Four focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. Note that the posterior sixth of the body is a cilia-free zone (CZ). CC = caudal cilium, CV = contractile vacuole, CP = cytopharynx, EX = extrusomes, Ma = macronucleus, OF = oral flaps. Obj. 100 X.



**Fig. 3 a-b:** *Urotricha ovata*. L = 42  $\mu\text{m}$ . Two focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. CC = caudal cilium, Ma = macronucleus, OB = oral basket. Obj. 100 X.