Observations on

Nuclearia delicatula Cienkowsky 1865

Most likely ID: n. a.

Synonyms: n. a.

EOL Phylogenetic tree: *Nuclearia delicatula*

Multi-nucleated amoeboid

I usually focus carefully through the viewed objects to discover the cell organelles and to get an idea of the extension of the viewed beings in the third dimension. In the *Nuclearia* cell shown in Fig. 1 I discovered that it probably had more than one nucleus. At first it was still too mobile, so I could not be sure how many nuclei were actually in the cell. As the water under the coverslip progressively evaporated, mobility became restricted, I was able to take tomographic images and counted six large vesicular nuclei! The rod-shaped bacteria show very vividly the extent of the mucous membrane around the cell. The properties “mucilaginous coat” and “multinucleated, 4-12 nuclei” ensure the identification of the species *Nuclearia delicatula*.

Fig. 1: Three tomograms of a *Nuclearia delicatula* cell showing several nuclei. Scale bar indicates 10 µm. Sample from a tropical freshwater aquarium.

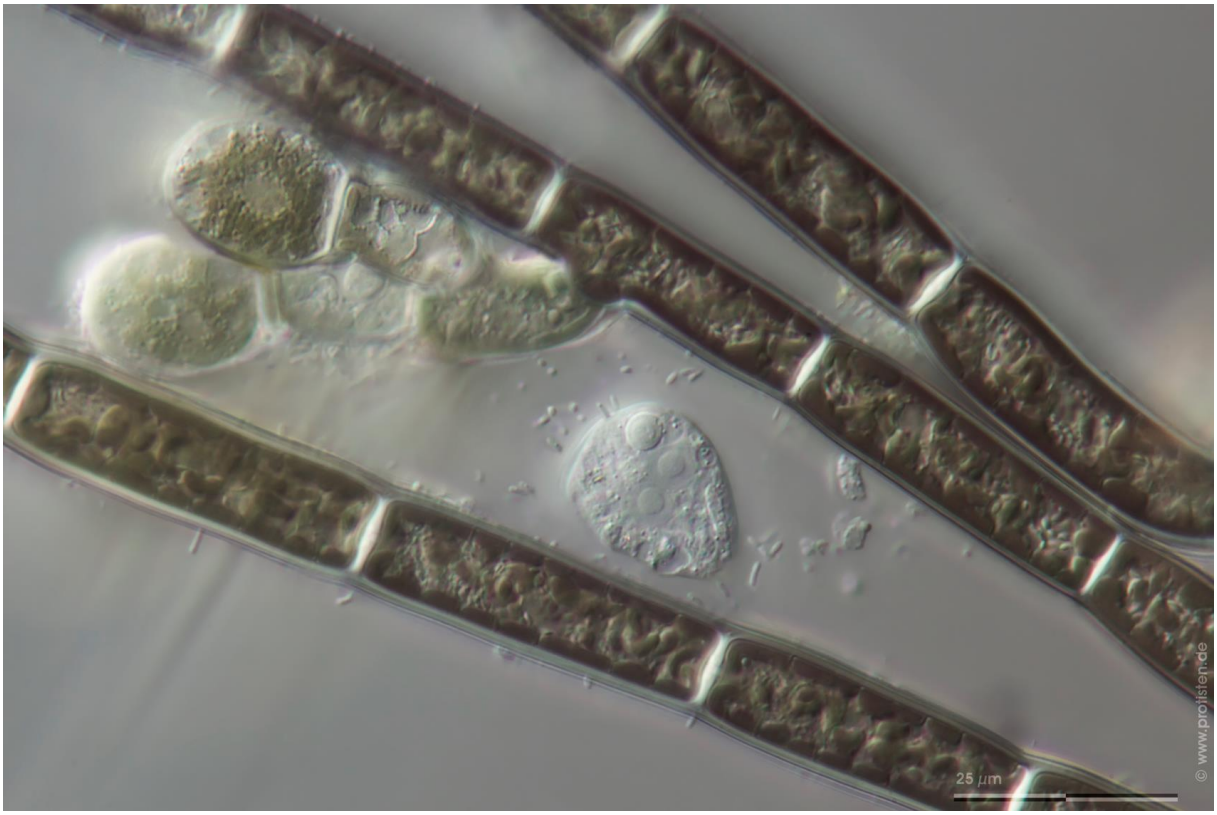

Fig. 2: *Nuclearia delicatula* amongst red alga filaments (*Audouinella* spec.) Two nuclei are visible. Scale bar indicates 25 µm. Sample from a tropical freshwater aquarium.

Fig. 3: *Nuclearia delicatula* on a red alga filament (*Audouinella* spec.) Nuclei and pseudopods are visible. Scale bar indicates 25 µm.