Ceriodaphnia quadrangula (O.F. Müller 1785)
Family Daphniidae Sars
Genus Ceriodaphnia Dana 1853

Key characteristics:
Seen from the side this species has a more square form compared to any of the other Ceriodaphnia species. Its head is evenly rounded. The post abdomen is quite long and is often seen outside the carapace. This may be used to distinguish this species from C. pulchella whose postabdomen is always hidden by the carapace. Near anus the post abdomen has a concave form and at the posterior end has a row 8-10 spines. It is rather transparent with a grey/yellow colour with a reddish or bluegreenish tinge.

Female: Length 0.4-1.2 mm
Male: Length 0.5-0.7 mm

Distribution:
Among Ceriodaphnia species in Norway C. quadrangula is the most common and is found in 18% of the water bodies. It is found all over the country with the highest number of records from the south and north-eastern parts. It is a plankton/littoral species which occurs in water bodies of all sizes from sea level to the alpine zone (1380 m a.s.l.) with its highest frequency between 100 and 700 m a.s.l. C. quadrangula is acid tolerant and very common in localities having pH<5.0. Conductivity varies between 0.4 and 42 mS/m.