

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.

