

Chydorus ovalis (Kurz 1875)

Family Chydoridae, Stebbing

Genus Chydorus, Leach 1816

Key characteristics:

C. ovalis can be mixed up with both *C. latus* and *C. sphaericus*, but differs from these species in having a more rounded outline. It is often larger than *C. sphaericus*. The antennae have eight bristles, which is more than in the two other *Chydorus*-species. The postabdomen has 11-15 small denticles of about the same size. The shape of postabdomen makes it easy to distinguish the male from other species. Most often it has a deep yellowish-orange colour, but may also be more light yellowish-brown.

Female: Length 0.4-0.7 mm

Male: Length 0.3-0.5 mm

Distribution:

C. ovalis is found in 28 localities. Since the species may be mixed up with both *C. sphaericus* and *C. latus*, it is probably underestimated so far. *C. ovalis* occur between 190 and 897 m a.s.l., and except for a few, all specimen is found in the area north of Oslo. It mainly occurs in peat land and 11 of the records are from water bodies characterized as bogs, being small (<0,1 da) and acid.

