

Daphnia galeata Sars 1863

Family Daphniidae

Genus *Daphnia* O.F. Müller 1785

Key characteristics:

D. galeata can be easily distinguished from all other daphnids when the helmet is fully developed in late autumn. It is characterised by the protruding part erected from the curved head. This form of *D. galeata* is most common in summer. Its helmet also differs from the helmet of *D. cristata* and *D. cucullata* which is more pointed. Further the latter two species have no eyespot (oscellus) in contrast to *D. longispina* and *D. galeata* which have. *D. galeata* also has a fully developed bristle on the first joint of the three segmented branch of the second pair of antennae. It is rather hyaline, sometimes with a yellowish tinge.

Female: Length 0.8 -2.9 mm

Male: Length 0.9-1.4 mm

Distribution:

D. galeata is distributed all over the country, and occurs in more than 20% of the water bodies where zooplankton is sampled. Among daphniids in Norway, only *D. longispina* is more common. Though it has been found at 1373 m a.s.l., it is most commonly occurs below 500 m a.s.l. There are a few records from weakly acidic water, but the great majority of localities have pH > 6.0. Medium electrolyte rich waters seem to favourite the species.

