

Oxyurella tenuicaudis (Sars 1862)

Family Chydoridae, Stebbing

Genus *Oxyurella*, Dybowski et Grochowski 1894

Key characteristics:

Originally Sars ascribed *O. tenuicaudis* to the genus *Alona* because he found similarities with *Alona quadrangularis*, though this species is almost twice as large. Like in *Alona* the posterior margin of the carapace is more than half the maximum height. Its head is however comparatively shorter. The post abdomen is long and thin and its width is almost uniform throughout. The denticles fastened to the posterior edge are anteriorly very small, but their length increase towards the ventral corner. Here they are larger than in any other chydorid. The colour is yellow, sometimes with elements of brown.

Female: Length 0.5-0.8 mm

Male: Length 0.4-0.5 mm

Distribution:

O. tenuicaudis is recorded from 16 localities in the vicinity of Oslo where this species was also found for the first time by G.O. Sars. The localities are situated 5-241 m a.s.l. and except for two, the surface area is less than 1 da.

O. tenuicaudis is normally found in small ponds, rich in water vegetation.

pH is varying between 6.0 and 8.2 while conductivity is

within the range 7-56 mS/m.

According to the Norwegian red list *O. tenuicaudis* is considered as near threatened (NT).

