

Paracyclops poppei (Rehberg 1880)

Family Cyclopidae, G.O. Sars

Genus *Paracyclops*, Claus 1893

Key characteristics:

The first records of this species from Norway are from the 1990s. *P. poppei* is therefore one of the few copepod species from Norway which has not been found/described by G.O. Sars. It resembles *P. affinis*, but in contrast to this species the antennae in *P. poppei* have only 8 segments and its furca is longer, about three times as long as wide. Unlike the two other species in this genus the upper face of the furca branches is not crossed by a row of small spikes. Instead *P. poppei* has a longitudinal row of fine spikes starting from the lateral seta of the furca and ending close to the base of the last abdominal segment.

Female: Length 0.8-0.9 mm

Male: Length 0.7 mm

Distribution:

About ten years after the first specimen was found in Norway, it has been recorded from 17 water bodies (<1%) mainly from the surroundings of Oslo. Except for one lake all records are from ponds and slow moving rivers situated below 150 m a.s.l. The species is associated with neutral, electrolyte rich water and occurs often together with *P. affinis* and *P. fimbriatus*. pH varies between 6.2 and 7.9 and conductivity between 7 and 45 mS/m.

