

Bosmina longirostris (O.F. Müller 1785)

Family Bosminidae

Genus *Bosmina*, 1845 Baird

Key characteristics:

This species is very similar to *B. longispina*. Seen from the side it has an almost circular shape. The head is evenly rounded anteriorly, ventrally it protrudes into a fairly long ventrally directed rostrum, looking like it is a part of the body. As in *B. longispina* the dorsal edge of the carapace is strongly arched, while the ventral edge posteriorly ends in a pointed process. Instead of teeth the abdominal claw has a bunch of hairy bristles decreasing in size towards the base. The species is transparent with opaque areas slightly tinted yellow.

Female: Length 0.2-0.7 mm

Male: Length 0.4-0.5 mm

Distribution:

B. longirostris is a plankton/littoral species found in less than 10% of the water bodies, and is not as common as its relative *B. longispina*. These two species may have been mixed up. The species is often associated with nutrient rich lowland lakes with high densities of fish. Except for two records, all are from water bodies situated below 500 m a.s.l.. It occurs in localities of all sizes, but not in acid (pH < 5.0) water. It is also rare in electrolyte poor water.

