

Chydorus piger Sars 1862

Family chydoridae, Stebbing

Genus Chydorus, Leach 1816

Key characteristics:

Seen from the side, the shape of *C. piger* is less rounded than for ex. *C. sphaericus*. The posterior part of the carapace is somewhat elongated and rounded. The species is characterized by the indistinct diagonal striping of the ventral and posterior part of carapace. Its postabdomen is rather short and wide, tapering towards the end where the rounded part carries 10 rather long denticles on each side. Its colour is light yellow.

Female: Length 0.3-0.5 mm

Male: Length 0.3-0.4 mm

Distribution:

C. piger is found in nearly 4% of the localities (91 locations), and among species that belongs to the same genus it is only *C. sphaericus* which is more common. It is not found in the north-eastern parts of Norway, while it has a scattered distribution in the rest of the country. *C. piger* is found from sea-level and up to 1053 m a.s.l., with its highest frequency below 500 m a.s.l. The species is most common in the littoral of large waterbodies (>10 da), but do also occur in small ponds. Though the species have been found twice at pH<5,0 it is classified as an acid-sensitive species. Conductivity varies between 0.8 and 20 mS/m.

