

# *Cyclops abyssorum* (G.O. Sars 1863)

Family Cyclopidae, G.O. Sars

Genus Cyclops, O.F. Müller 1785

## Key characteristics:

*C. abyssorum* is a large species having a long furca where the two branches diverge towards the end. This criterion can be used to distinguish *C. abyssorum* from *C. scutifer*. Another criterion is the seta attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> basal segment in the 4<sup>th</sup> pair of legs which is much thinner in *C. abyssorum* than in *C. scutifer*. Thorax segments 4 and 5 are clearly pointed. *C. abyssorum* has a whitish grey colour with a slight yellow tinge which is more distinct on the furca. Many variants of *C. abyssorum* have been described by different authors.

Female: Length 1.2-2.6mm

Male: Length xx mm

## Distribution:

*C. abyssorum* is a plankton species found in 7.2 % (156 loc.) of the surveyed lakes and is found in all parts of the country. It occurs with highest frequency respectively below 100 m a.s.l. (14.1%) and above 1000 m a.s.l. (14.8%). It is found in all types of water bodies but occurs with highest frequency in ponds and small lakes (<10 da). *C. abyssorum* is scarcely found at pH<5.0 and is most common in neutral water bodies. Both low (<1.0 mS/m) and high levels of electrolytes (>10.0 mS/m) seem to favourite the species.

