

Diacyclops nanus (Sars 1863)

Family Cyclopidae, G.O. Sars

Genus Diacyclops, Kiefer 1927

Key characteristics:

This species may resemble *D. bicuspidatus*, having a relatively long tail with the lateral seta attached close by to the middle. However *D. nanus* is much smaller, its body is less slender, and the antennae are composed of 11 joints compared with 17 joints in *D. bicuspidatus*. The body of *D. nanus* is rather pellucid, with a faint yellowish or reddish tinge.

Female: Length 0.7-0.9 mm

Male: Length 0.6-0.7 mm

Distribution:

D. nanus is the only species in the genus *Diacyclops* which is widely distributed in Norway, and so far it has been recorded from 444 localities, which is about 20% of the water bodies. It occurs with its highest frequency in ditches and small ponds situated from sea level to 1444 m.a.s.l. *D. nanus* is used as an indicator of acidity, and when $\text{pH} < 5.0$, it is found in more than half of the water bodies. It is most common in low and medium electrolyte rich water (< 5.0 mS/m).

