

# Ectocyclops phaleratus (Koch 1838)

Family Cyclopidae, G.O. Sars

Genus *Ectocyclops*, Brady 1904

## Key characteristics:

The habitus of *E. phaleratus* is similar to *Paracyclops affinis* which is smaller and has a less robust form. Compared to other cyclopoids, its abdomen appears very wide compared to its cephalothorax. The short antennae have 10 segments, which is a criteria that distinguishes *E. phaleratus* from the two species of the genus *Paracyclops*, having respectively eight and 11 segments. Its colour is a dark reddish brown.

Female: Length 0.9-1.1 mm

Male: Length 0.8 mm

## Distribution:

*E. phaleratus* is found in 55 (2.5%) of the waterbodies. Two localities in the south-west, the rest in the vicinity of Oslo. All records, except for one, are from localities situated below 500 m a.s.l. It occurs with its highest frequency in ponds (<1 da), and is so far not recorded from lakes >100 da. It seems to be acid sensitive and is rare at pH < 6. Electrolyte rich habitats seem to favour the species.

