

Eudiaptomus graciloides (Lilljeborg 1888)

Family Diaptomidae, G.O. Sars

Genus Eudiaptomus, Kiefer 1932

Key characteristics:

The body of *E. graciloides* is very slender and resemble *E. gracilis*. The best way to distinguish these two species is the lateral expansion of the last thorax segment which is much more prominent in the latter. In *E. graciloides* this expansion is small and scarcely at all extant. The furca is short, about twice as long as wide, while the anterior antennae are long and slender extending far beyond the furca, in some cases as much as the 2 or 3 outer joints. *E. graciloides* is generally very pellucid and almost colourless, but in some cases with a dark bluish hue.

Female: Length 1.0-2.5 mm

Male: 0.9-1.1 mm

Distribution:

Except for a handful of records from water bodies east of Oslo (216), *E. graciloides* is found in the three northernmost counties. As a consequence of its northern distribution it is rare at high elevations (>500 m a.s.l.). It occurs with its highest frequency in large lakes (>100 da) though it is also common in relatively small ponds. *E. graciloides* is only found twice at pH<5.5. It is common when conductivity is above 2 mS/m.

