

Latona setifera (O.F. Müller 1776)

Family Sididae

Genus *Latona* Straus 1820

Key characteristics:

Seen from the side, this species has an oval form being about twice as long as broad. The first pair of antennae differ from other in the Sididae family, in having long bristles. The basal segment of the two jointed second antennae is powerfully built and gives the appearance of being a third branch. The branches are equipped with a great number of long bristles and the animal moves in long jumps faster than any other cladocerans. Its postabdomen is relatively small, and has two coarse teeth attached to the abdominal claw. Young individuals are almost hyaline, while adult specimens have blue, green or brown colours.

Female: Length 1.4-2.8 mm

Male: Length 1.4-1.8 mm

Distribution:

L. setifera is a littoral species which has been found in 59 localities or 2.5% of the investigated lakes. It has a scattered distribution, and is found as far north as Troms County. *L. setifera* has never been found in waters above 1000 m a.s.l. Below this altitude it occurs with about equal frequency. Except for a few, all records are from lakes with surface area >1 da. The species seems quite tolerant to pH (4.2-7.7) and to the contents of electrolytes (0.8-17.5 mS/m).

