

Pleuroxus trigonellus (O.F. Muller 1785)

Family Chydoridae, Stebbing

Genus *Pleuroxus*, Baird 1843

Key characteristics:

P. trigonellus has an oval shape, where the dorsal margin of the carapace is strongly convex. Its rostrum is not as long as in *P. laevis*. The post abdomen is broad and has 10-14 rather coarse teeth increasing in size distally. At the basis of each abdominal claw, there are two spines, one long and one short. Its colour is brown often with a tinge of red or green.

Female: Length 0.5-0.7 mm

Male: Length 0.5-0.6 mm

Distribution:

P. trigonellus is a littoral species recorded from 43 locations (2% of the water bodies) mainly from the south-eastern part of Norway. However it is also found in the far north (the counties Troms and Finnmark). It occurs from sea level and up to the timber line (962 m a.s.l.) and is found in localities of all sizes. *P. trigonellus* occurs in dense vegetation as well as on stony bottom. There are records from water bodies with pH ranging from 6.1 to 8.3. This may indicate that the species is acid sensitive. Conductivity is varying between 1 and 22 mS/m.

