

Pleuroxus truncatus (O.F. Müller 1785)

Family chydoridae, Stebbing

Genus *Pleuroxus*, Baird 1843

Key characteristics:

This species is also known as *Peracantha truncata*. It is easy to distinguish from all chydorids because the posterior margin of the carapace has 11-20 coarse teeth. The post abdomen has 11-20 spinules increasing in size distally, where the lateral spinules have groups of small setae. Its colour varies from light brown to red brownish.

Female: Length 0.5-0.8 mm

Male: Length 0.4-0.5 mm

Distribution:

P. truncatus is a quite common littoral species found in 421 localities, it means 20% of the investigated water bodies. It occurs regularly in the south-eastern parts of Norway, while it has a more scattered distribution in the rest of the country. Its highest frequency is found in localities situated between 100 and 300 m a.s.l. though it occurs from sea level and up to the alpine zone (1267 m a.s.l.). It is recorded in water bodies of all sizes, often in high densities. It occurs in all sorts of vegetation, and is also found on stony/sandy bottom. The frequency of lakes containing *P. truncatus* increase slightly with pH. pH is varying between 4.3 and 8.6 while conductivity varies from 0.7 to 48 mS/m.

