

Revision of some spathidiid genera
(Alveolata, Ciliophora, Spathidiida)

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Edited by

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Cover: *Epispathidium papilliferum* (front; see Fig. 6.11h–j in Chapter 6); *Neospathidium longinucleatum* (back; see Fig. 12.9j–l in Chapter 12)

In memory of Wilhelm Foissner (1948–2020)

Contents

Preface, authorship, acknowledgements, and funding xiii

Abstract xv

Chapter 1

H. Berger, K. Xu & W. Foissner

General section to “Revision of some spathidiid genera (Alveolata, Ciliophora, Spathidiida)”, including nomenclatural notes 1

Abstract 1

Introduction 1

Material and methods 2

Notes on so-called, nomenclaturally unavailable names of species due to aphory 5

Nomenclatural notes on new species/subspecies described by Foissner et al. (2002) 8

Protospathidium vermiforme Foissner, Agatha & Berger nov. spec. 10

Notes on type slides of species described by Foissner (2016a, b) 15

Note on ZooBank registration number of author Helmut Berger 17

Summary of nomenclatural acts and of taxa described in Chapters 1–13 18

New subspecies 18

New species 18

New genera 18

New combinations 18

New family 19

Redescriptions, reviews, and others 19

New name (Replacement name) 20

Funding 20

References 20

Chapter 2

H. Berger, K. Xu & W. Foissner

Spathidiida Foissner & Foissner, 1988 (Ciliophora, Litostomatea, Haptoria): a brief introduction 25

Abstract 25

Spathidiida Foissner & Foissner, 1988 26

Key to subtaxa (families) of the Spathidiida Foissner & Foissner, 1988 27

Spathidiidae Kahl in Doflein & Reichenow, 1929 27

Spathidium Dujardin, 1841 28

Funding 29

References 29

Chapter 3

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

Characterisation of 15 species belonging to the genus *Spathidium* Dujardin, 1841 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), including three new 33

Abstract	33
Characterisation of 15 <i>Spathidium</i> species	34
The <i>Spathidium elongatum</i> group	34
<i>Spathidium elongatum</i> nov. spec.	36
<i>Spathidium apospathidiiforme</i> nov. spec.	43
<i>Spathidium duschli</i> Foissner, 2016	59
<i>Spathidium dispar</i> Foissner & Xu in Foissner, 2016	59
The <i>Spathidium bromelicola</i> group	61
<i>Spathidium bromelicola</i> Foissner, Wolf, Kumar, Xu & Quintela-Alonso, 2014	62
<i>Spathidium aciculare</i> Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	65
<i>Spathidium etoschense</i> Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	65
<i>Spathidium saprophilum</i> nov. spec.	67
<i>Spathidium saprophilum saprophilum</i> nov. subspec.	68
<i>Spathidium saprophilum curvioplites</i> nov. subspec.	71
<i>Spathidium rusticanum</i> Foissner, 1981	74
The <i>Spathidium wolffi</i> group	85
<i>Spathidium wolffi</i> Foissner, Wolf, Kumar, Xu & Quintela-Alonso, 2014	85
<i>Spathidium faurefremietii</i> Foissner, 2003	86
<i>Spathidium latissimum</i> Lepsi, 1959	89
<i>Spathidium polyvacuolatum</i> Vuxanovici, 1959	90
Two further <i>Spathidium</i> species	90
<i>Spathidium anguilla</i> Vuxanovici, 1962	91
<i>Spathidium polynucleatum</i> (Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002) Jang, Vd'ačný, Shazib & Shin, 2017	96
Funding	106
Acknowledgements	106
References	106

Chapter 4

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Apospathidium* Foissner et al., 2002 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a genus whose species have oralized somatic kineties** 111

Abstract	111
<i>Apospathidium</i> Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	111
Key to species	112
<i>Apospathidium terricola</i> Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	112
<i>Apospathidium longicaudatum</i> (Buitkamp, 1977) nov. comb.	117
Funding	124
Acknowledgements	124
References	125

Chapter 5

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Centrospathidium* nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a new genus whose type**

species was discovered in an Australian floodplain 127

Abstract 127

Centrospathidium nov. gen. 127

Key to species 128

Centrospathidium verrucosum nov. spec. 128

Centrospathidium faurei (Kahl, 1930) nov. comb. 136

Centrospathidium minutum (Kahl, 1926) nov. comb. 138

Funding 138

Acknowledgements 139

References 139

Chapter 6

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Epispathidium* Foissner, 1984 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a genus where the circumoral kinety is completely separated from the somatic kineties 141**

Abstract 141

Epispathidium Foissner, 1984 142

Key to species 143

Epispathidium regium Foissner, 1984 144

Epispathidium securiforme (Kahl, 1930) Foissner, 1984 154

Epispathidium salsum nov. spec. 166

Epispathidium papilliferum (Kahl, 1930) Foissner, 1984 174

Brief review of other species assigned to *Epispathidium* Foissner, 1984 196

Epispathidium terricola Foissner, 1987 196

Epispathidium amphoriforme (Greeff, 1889) Foissner, 1984 197

Epispathidium ascendens (Wenzel, 1955) Foissner, 1987 202

Funding 207

Acknowledgements 207

References 207

Chapter 7

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Latispathidium* Foissner et al., 2005 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a genus whose species have the dorsal brush on the left body side 213**

Abstract 213

Latispathidium Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, 2005 213

Key to species 215

Latispathidium lanceoplites (Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002) Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, 2005 215

Latispathidium truncatum (Stokes, 1885) Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, 2005 218

Key to subspecies 220

Latispathidium truncatum truncatum (Stokes, 1885) Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, 2005 221

Latispathidium truncatum bimacronucleatum Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, 2005 222
Latispathidium arboricola nov. spec. 229
Latispathidium simile nov. spec. 238
Latispathidium brachyoplites nov. spec. 245
Funding 252
Acknowledgements 252
References 253

Chapter 8

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Schmidingerophrya* nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a new genus whose species have only two dorsal brush rows 257**

Abstract 257
Schmidingerophrya nov. gen. 257
Key to species 258
Schmidingerophrya macrothrix nov. spec. 258
Schmidingerophrya bisticha nov. spec. 272
Funding 279
Acknowledgements 279
References 279

Chapter 9

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Semibryophyllum* nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a new genus characterised by three ordinary dorsal brush rows and several accessory brush rows on the left side 281**

Abstract 281
Semibryophyllum nov. gen. 281
Key to species 285
Semibryophyllum cultellum nov. spec. 285
Semibryophyllum palustre nov. spec. 291
Semibryophyllum foliosum (Foissner, 1983) nov. comb. 303
Funding 308
Acknowledgements 308
References 308

Chapter 10

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Semispathidium* Foissner et al., 2002 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a genus whose species have a discoidal oral bulge and *Spathidium*-like oral and somatic ciliature 311**

Abstract 311
Semispathidium Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002 312
Key to species 315
Semispathidium enchelyodontides Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002 315

<i>Semispathidium armatum</i> Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	320
<i>Semispathidium lagyniforme</i> (Kahl, 1930) Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002	322
<i>Semispathidium breviararmatum</i> Foissner & Vdačný in Vdačný & Foissner, 2013	325
<i>Semispathidium longiararmatum</i> Foissner & Vdačný in Vdačný, Slovák & Foissner, 2014	326
<i>Semispathidium fraterculum</i> Foissner & Al-Rasheid in Foissner, Hess & Al-Rasheid, 2010	329
<i>Semispathidium pulchrum</i> Foissner, Hess & Al-Rasheid, 2010	330
Funding	330
Acknowledgements	331
References	331

Chapter 11

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

***Supraspathidium* Foissner & Didier, 1981 (Ciliophora, Spathidiidae), a genus whose species have more than one contractile vacuole** 335

Abstract 335

Supraspathidium Foissner & Didier, 1981 335

Key to species 337

Supraspathidium teres (Stokes, 1886) Foissner & Didier, 1981 338

Supraspathidium multistriatum Foissner & Didier, 1981 339

Supraspathidium etoschense Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002 346

Supraspathidium armatum Foissner, Agatha & Berger, 2002 353

Supraspathidium vermiforme (Penard, 1922) Foissner & Didier, 1981 357

Supraspathidium elongatum (Penard, 1922) Foissner & Didier, 1981 359

Supraspathidium gigas (Cunha, 1914) Foissner & Didier, 1981 361

Funding 363

Acknowledgements 363

References 363

Chapter 12

W. Foissner, K. Xu & H. Berger

Pharyngospathidiidae nov. fam. (Ciliophora, Spathidiida), a group of spathidiids with a permanent cytopharynx 367

Abstract 367

Pharyngospathidiidae nov. fam. 367

Key to genera 369

Pharyngospathidium nov. gen. 369

Key to species and subspecies 369

Pharyngospathidium longichilum nov. spec. 370

Pharyngospathidium longichilum longichilum nov. subspec. 378

Pharyngospathidium longichilum amphoriforme nov. subspec. 380

Pharyngospathidium pseudobavariense nov. spec. 389

Pharyngospathidium bavariense (Kahl, 1930) nov. comb. 398

<i>Pharyngospathidium simplinucleatum</i> (Kahl, 1930) nov. comb.	399
<i>Neospathidium</i> nov. gen.	400
Key to species	400
<i>Neospathidium longinucleatum</i> nov. spec.	401
<i>Neospathidium africanum</i> nov. spec.	418
<i>Neospathidium brachystichos</i> nov. spec.	424
Funding	428
Acknowledgements	428
References	429

Chapter 13

H. Berger, K. Xu & W. Foissner

Supplement to the Arcuospathidiidae Foissner & Xu, 2007: <i>Neocultellothrix</i> Foissner nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Haptoria, Arcuospathidiidae) with <i>Neocultellothrix velhoi</i> Foissner nov. spec. as type species, and transfer of six species from the unavailable genus <i>Cultellothrix</i> Foissner, 2003 to <i>Neocultellothrix</i> Foissner nov. gen., a step to fix a serious nomenclatural problem	433
Abstract	433
<i>Neocultellothrix</i> Foissner nov. gen.	434
Key to species	436
<i>Neocultellothrix velhoi</i> Foissner nov. spec.	436
Note on type material of <i>Cephalospathula brasiliensis</i> Foissner, 2003b	438
<i>Neocultellothrix atypica</i> (Wenzel, 1953) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.	439
<i>Neocultellothrix coemeterii</i> (Kahl, 1943) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.	443
<i>Neocultellothrix japonica</i> (Foissner, 1988) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.	445
<i>Neocultellothrix lionotiformis</i> (Kahl, 1930) Foissner nov. comb.	446
<i>Neocultellothrix paucistriata</i> (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb.	448
<i>Neocultellothrix tortisticha</i> (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb.	449
Funding	450
Acknowledgements	450
References	450

Index

Systematic index 453

Table index 465

Preface, authorship, acknowledgements, and funding

The spathidiids have been one of several favorite ciliate groups of Wilhelm Foissner. In 2001, W. Foissner started a revision of this large group of haptorids. During processing his huge archive after his sudden death in 2020, I found a well-advanced manuscript dealing with several spathidiid genera. In order to prevent this manuscript from being forgotten, I have decided to publish it in my monographic series on ciliates.

W. Foissner collected most samples, made the in vivo observations, the preparations, many morphometries, and wrote text. K. Xu made morphometries and illustrations, compiled the plates, and wrote text. I updated the text of the raw manuscript, organized the deposition of the slides in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz, wrote the front matter, the general introduction, the material and method section including the summary of taxa (Chapter 1), the brief introduction to the spathidiids (Chapter 2), the chapter on *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen. (Chapter 13), and the back matter (index). Further, I made the layout and produced the final PDF.

The help of the following persons must be acknowledged: Sabine Agatha, Remigius Geiser, Eva Herzog, Wolf-Dietrich Krautgartner, Brigitte Moser, Birgit Peukert, Fritz Seyrl, and Andreas Zankl. Colleagues who provided samples are acknowledged in the individual species descriptions. I also want to thank Magdalini Christodoulou and Alexandra Aberham at the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz for help with the transfer of the Foissner archive from Salzburg to Linz.

Wilhelm Foissner, Kuidong Xu, and co-workers involved in this project got financial support by the Austrian Science Fund FWF (Project P15017-B06, “Monographie der Familie Spathidiidae (Ciliophora)”). I wish to thank Ilse Foissner who generously privately financed my work on this book.

Salzburg
January 2025

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Abstract

Foissner W., Xu K. & Berger H. (Eds) (2025): Revision of some spathidiid genera (Alveolata, Ciliophora, Spathidiida). – Ser. Monogr. Cilioph. 6: i–xv, 1–465.

This book deals with some spathidiid taxa. The following genera are treated and established, respectively: *Apospathidium* Foissner et al., 2002; *Centrospathidium* nov. gen.; *Epispathidium* Foissner, 1984; *Latispathidium* Foissner et al., 2005; *Schmidingerophrya* nov. gen.; *Semibryophyllum* nov. gen.; *Semispathidium* Foissner et al., 2002; *Supraspathidium* Foissner & Didier, 1981; *Pharyngospathidium* nov. gen. (type genus of Pharyngospathidiidae nov. fam.); *Neospathidium* nov. gen.; *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen. The latter genus “replaces” *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003, an unavailable genus because no holotype was fixed for the type species in the original description. In addition, 12 *Spathidium* species are reviewed, and three new species assigned to this genus are described. In total, four new subspecies, 19 new species, six new genera, and one new family are described, 13 species are transferred to other genera, and 41 known species and two subspecies are reviewed. Further, three “*Spathidium* groups” are discussed. The type slides of the new species and voucher slides of the redescribed species are documented.

Key words: Alveolata; biogeography; Ciliophora; cyst; diversity; Haptoria; monograph; morphogenesis; nomenclature; Protista; revision; soil biology; systematics; taxonomy

Chapter 13

Supplement to the Arcuospathidiidae Foissner & Xu, 2007: *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Haptoria, Arcuospathidiidae) with *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. as type species, and transfer of six species from the unavailable genus *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003 to *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen., a step to fix a serious nomenclatural problem¹

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Abstract

Cultellothrix velhoi Foissner, 2003a, the type species of *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a, was established without fixation of a holotype. However, according to the Code, the fixation of a holotype in the original description is a prerequisite for species described after 1999. Consequently, *Cultellothrix velhoi* is an unavailable name which therefore cannot serve as type species of *Cultellothrix* which is thus likewise an unavailable name. To fix these serious nomenclatural problems, we establish *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen., describe the type species *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec., and make the following new combinations: *Neocultellothrix atypica* (Wenzel, 1953) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.; *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.; *Neocultellothrix japonica* (Foissner, 1988) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.; *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* (Kahl, 1930) Foissner nov. comb.; *Neocultellothrix paucistriata* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb.; *Neocultellothrix tortisticha*

¹ This chapter should be referenced as follows: Berger H., Xu K. & Foissner W. (2025): Supplement to the Arcuospathidiidae Foissner & Xu, 2007: *Neocultellothrix* Foissner nov. gen. (Ciliophora, Haptoria, Arcuospathidiidae) with *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. as type species, and transfer of six species from the unavailable genus *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003, a step to fix a serious nomenclatural problem. – Ser. Monogr. Cilioph. 6: 433–452.

For notes on “Material and methods”, see Chapter 1 (Berger et al. 2025).

(Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb. The nomenclature of the genus and each species is discussed in detail. For remarks, description, and occurrence and ecology of the individual species the reader is mainly referred to previous works. An important note on the type material of *Cephalospatulula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b is made.

Neocultellothrix Foissner nov. gen.

- 2003 *Cultellothrix* gen. n.² – Foissner, Acta Protozool. 42: 48 (“original description” of unavailable name, see nomenclature). Type species: *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003 (invalid species; see nomenclature).
 2007 *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003³ – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 267 (detailed revision; unavailable name, see nomenclature).
 2007 *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003 – Jankowski, Phylum Ciliophora, p. 566 (unavailable name; generic revision of ciliates).

Nomenclature: *Neocultellothrix* is a composite of the Greek adjective *neos* (young, new; Hentschel & Wagner 1996, p. 420), the Latin noun (diminutive) *cultellus* (small knife; Hentschel & Wagner 1996, p. 191), the thematic vowel *-o-* (at the end of the first stem, when the second begins with a consonant; Werner 1972, p. 37), and the Greek noun *thrix* (hair, ciliate in present case; Werner 1972, p. 420). The name refers to the conspicuous knife-shape of the two species mentioned by Foissner (2003a). The prefix *Neo-* shall avoid that later workers use again the old, invalid name “*Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a”. Feminine gender, like other genus-group names ending with *-thrix*, e.g., *Afrothrix*, *Australothrix*, *Gigantothrix* (Aescht 2001, p. 272, 274, 283). In future, this genus must be cited as “*Neocultellothrix* Foissner in Berger et al., 2025”.

Foissner (2003a) did not fix a holotype (or syntype) for the type species (*Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003a) of *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a and further he did not mention where possible type material is deposited. However, the description of a new species published after 1999 must include the fixation of a holotype or syntypes (ICZN 1999, Articles 16.4, 72.3). Further, the original publication (Foissner 2003a) must contain a statement in which collection the holotype will be (or is already) deposited (ICZN 1999, Article 16.4.2). Thus, the description of *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003a is invalid and the binomen *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003a is an unavailable name (“nomenclaturally unavailable” according to Aescht 2008, p. 185).⁴ The review of *Cultellothrix velhoi* in Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 270) can likewise not serve as original description, inter alia, because the name (“*Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003”) is not indicated as new (ICZN 1999, Article 16.1).

A further question is if *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is a valid genus? According to Article 67.2 of the ICZN (1999), a nominal species is only eligible to be fixed as the type species of a nominal genus (*Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a in present case) if it is an originally included nominal species. Foissner (2003a) designated the new species *Cultellothrix velhoi* as

² Foissner (2003a) provided the following diagnosis: “Spathidiidae with dorsal brush on left side and ciliature in *Arcuospathidium* pattern.”

³ Foissner & Xu (2007) provided the following improved diagnosis: “More or less distinctly pleurostomatid-shaped Arcuospathidiidae with brush on left side of cell; individual brush rows without anterior tail of ordinary cilia.”

⁴ An unavailable name is a scientific name that does not conform to Articles 10 to 20 (Article 16.4 in present case) of the ICZN (1999).

type species by fixation in the original publication (ICZN 1999, Article 68). In the meaning of the Code the “originally included nominal species” comprise only those included in the newly established nominal genus or subgenus, having been cited in the original publication by an **available** name (ICZN 1999, Article 67.2.1). However, as explained above, *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name and therefore the genus *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is likewise unavailable. Since *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is unavailable, the combinations with *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a made by Foissner (2003a) and Foissner & Xu (2007) are likewise unavailable.

Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 290, 294) described two new *Cultellothrix* species, namely *Cultellothrix paucistriata* Foissner & Xu, 2007 and *Cultellothrix tortisticha* Foissner & Xu, 2007. We did not find an article in ICZN (1999) which clearly regulates the fate of a new species erected in combination with an unavailable genus-group name (*Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a in present case). We follow Aescht (2001, p. 19), who found that, for example, *Akidodes* Lom, 1959 is a nomen nudum because no type species was fixed in the original description (Lom 1959, p. 475), a prerequisite for the establishment of a genus after 1930 (Heikertinger 1930, p. 8, Artikel 25c (3); ICZN 1961, Article 13(b); 1999, Article 13.3).⁵ Therefore, Aescht (2001, p. 19; actually Lom in Aescht) established the genus “*Akidodes* Lom in Aescht, 2001” and fixed “*Akidodes symmetricus* Lom, 1959” as type species. Since *Akidodes* Lom, 1959 is invalid, Aescht (2001, p. 272) transferred *Akidodes symmetricus* Lom, 1959 to *Akidodes* Lom in Aescht, 2001, as *Akidodes symmetricus* (Lom, 1959) Lom in Aescht, 2001. We apply the same procedure for the two new species described by Foissner & Xu (2007).⁶

Because of this tricky nomenclatural matter, we establish a new genus, describe a new type species, and transfer the species concerned to the new genus. To avoid the use of the old, unavailable name *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a we do not use this name (*Cultellothrix*) again but modify it. For morphological and other data, the reader is mainly referred to Foissner (2003a) and Foissner & Xu (2007).

Diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007): More or less distinctly pleurostomatid-shaped Arcuospathidiidae with brush on left side of cell; individual brush rows without anterior tail of ordinary cilia.

Type species: *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec.

Species assigned: *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. (type species); *Neocultellothrix atypica* (Wenzel, 1953) nov. comb. (original combination *Spathidium atypicum*); *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) nov. comb. (original combination *Spathidium coemeterii*); *Neocultellothrix japonica* (Foissner, 1988) nov. comb. (original combination *Arcuospathidium japonicum*); *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* (Kahl, 1930a) nov. comb. (original combination *Spathidium lionotiforme*); *Neocultellothrix paucistriata* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb. (original combination *Cultellothrix paucistriata*); *Neocultellothrix tortisticha* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) comb. nov. (original combination *Cultellothrix tortisticha*).

⁵ Article 13.3 of the ICZN (1999) says: “To be available, every new genus-group name published after 1930 (except those proposed for collective groups or ichnotaxa) must, in addition to satisfying the provisions of Article 13.1, be accompanied by the fixation of a type species in the original publication [Art. 68] or be expressly proposed as a new replacement name (nomen novum) [Art. 67.8].” A nomen nudum is not an available name (ICZN 1999, p. 111).

⁶ Lom in Aescht (2001, p. 19, 272) did not transfer *Akidodes henleae* Lom, 1959 (p. 477) to *Akidodes* Lom in Aescht, 2001. We make this formal act here: *Akidodes henleae* (Lom, 1959) Lom nov. comb. In future, this species has to be cited as “*Akidodes henleae* (Lom, 1959) Lom in Berger et al., 2025”.

ZooBank registration: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:C3E408F9-4E90-4F3F-80BF-73A
A7629CC84

Remarks: For remarks (e.g., classification and comparison with similar genera), see Foissner (2003a, p. 53) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 267).

Key to species

The key below is from Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 269), but slightly modified. Further, the names have been adapted.

- 1 Body outline distinctly knife-shaped; body usually >110 µm long in vivo. Macronucleus moderately long and tortuous 2
 - Body outline more or less distinctly spatulate; body usually <110 µm long in vivo. Macronucleus reniform or in two globules with a micronucleus in between 3
- 2 Body length 140–200 µm in vivo. Two ordinary ciliary rows between circumoral kinety and dorsal brush row 1. Postoral extrusome row likely lacking *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* (p. 446)
 - Body length 80–150 µm in vivo. No ordinary ciliary rows between circumoral kinety and dorsal brush row 1. With postoral extrusome row (difficult to recognize!). Extrusomes about 6 µm long, curved rods *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (p. 436)
- 3 (1) Macronucleus reniform 4
 - Macronucleus in two globules with a micronucleus in between 5
- 4 Body size about 95 × 23 µm in vivo. Extrusomes about 6 µm long, curved rods. On average 12 ciliary rows *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* (p. 443)
 - Body size about 65 × 20 µm in vivo. Extrusomes narrowly ovate and about 3 µm long. On average 7 ciliary rows *Neocultellothrix paucistriata* (p. 448)
- 5 (3) Extrusomes rod-shaped or oblong 6
 - Extrusomes narrowly ovate. On average about 12 ciliary rows *Neocultellothrix japonica* (p. 445)
- 6 Body size about 95 × 25 µm in vivo. On average 12 ciliary rows *Neocultellothrix atypica* (p. 439)
 - Body size about 55 × 10 µm in vivo. On average 7 ciliary rows *Neocultellothrix tortisticha* (p. 449)

Neocultellothrix velhoi Foissner nov. spec.

(Fig. 13.1a, b in present work; Fig. 1–11, 15–22 and Table 1 in Foissner 2003a; Fig. 82a–j, 137a–g and Table 29 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

2003 *Cultellothrix velhoi* sp. n.⁷ – Foissner, Acta Protozool. 42: 49, Fig. 1–11, 15–22, Table 1 (“original description”; unavailable name because no holotype fixed in original description; see nomenclature at genus section).

⁷ Foissner (2003a) provided the following diagnosis: “Size about 120 × 25 µm in vivo. Knife-shaped with blade (oral portion) approximately half of body length. Macronucleus about 40 µm long, usually tortuous. Extrusomes approx-

2007 *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003 – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 270, Fig. 82a–j, 137a–g, Table 29 (detailed revision; unavailable name, see nomenclature at genus section).

2007 *Cultellothrix velhoi* – Jankowski, Phylum Ciliophora, p. 566 (unavailable name; generic revision of ciliates).

Nomenclature: Dedicated to Dr. Luiz Felipe Machado Velho, Universidade Estadual de Maringá, Brazil, who provided the sample containing this and other new species (Foissner 2003a, p. 50), for example, *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner; 2003b (p. 128). The original description of *Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003a is invalid because no holotype was fixed by Foissner (2003a); for details, see nomenclature at genus section. In future, this species must be cited as “*Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner in Berger et al., 2025”.

Diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 270, slightly modified): Body size about $120 \times 25 \mu\text{m}$ in vivo. Body outline knife-shaped with blade (oral portion) approximately half of body length. Macronucleus about $40 \mu\text{m}$ long and usually tortuous; single micronucleus. Extrusomes rod-shaped and slightly curved, approximately $6.0 \times 0.3 \mu\text{m}$ in size in vivo, form short, oblique rows in oral bulge and a long postoral row extending to dorsal side of cell. On average 12 ciliary rows, those left of circumoral kinety anteriorly modified to strongly heterostichad dorsal brush occupying about 31% of body length. Brush bristles up to $5 \mu\text{m}$ long; row 1 composed of an average of 29 dikinetids, row 2 of 23, and row 3 of 7 dikinetids followed by a short monokinetid bristle tail.

Type locality: Floodplain soil of Paraná River (about $22^{\circ}40'S$ $53^{\circ}15'W$ according to Foissner 2003a), circa 150 km northwest of the town of Maringá, Brazil. Further details on this locality, see Foissner (2003a, p. 48).

Type material: The slide (Fig. 13.2a, b; accession number 2007/72) containing the holotype (Fig. 13.1a, b in present work; = Fig. 6, 7 in Foissner 2003a) and four paratype slides (Fig. 13.2c–i; accession numbers 2007/73–76) with protargol-prepared specimens have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz (LI).⁸

ZooBank registration: urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E2991E95-C71A-4F63-9477-4D13F06EBA2C

Remarks: For comparison of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. with similar species, see Foissner (2003a, p. 53) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 275).

Description: For description of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec., see Foissner (2003a, p. 50) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 271).

imately $6 \times 0.3 \mu\text{m}$, form short, oblique rows in oral bulge and a long postoral row extending to dorsal side of cell. On average 12 ciliary rows, those left of circumoral kinety anteriorly modified to dorsal brush; brush row 3 distinctly shortened consisting of an average of 7 dikinetids.”

⁸ Note by H. Berger: Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 270) mentioned that “Type slides, with protargol-impregnated specimens from type locality are deposited in the Oberösterreichische Landesmuseum in Linz, Upper Austria”. However, this information did not prevent the problem of a lacking holotype fixation in the original description (for details, see nomenclature at genus section). Aeschl (2008, p. 185) mentioned the accession numbers (LI) of the type slides (holotype [original designation]: 2007/72; paratypes: 2007/73, 2007/74; 2007/75; 2007/76). However, as explained above, Foissner (2003a) neither mentioned that a holotype was fixed (neither in the text nor in the figure legends) nor did he mention where type material is/will be deposited. Further, the numbers “2007/72–76” show that the slides have been registered in the museum just in 2007, that is, four years after the invalid publication of the species. We do not change the registration numbers nor the labelling of the slides, that is, the name of the present species (*Neocultellothrix velhoi*) on the slides is “*Cultellothrix velhoi*” (see Fig. 13.2a–i). The name “*Cultellothrix velhoi*” in the present book and on the slides is disclaimed for nomenclatural purposes (CZN 1999, Article 8.3).

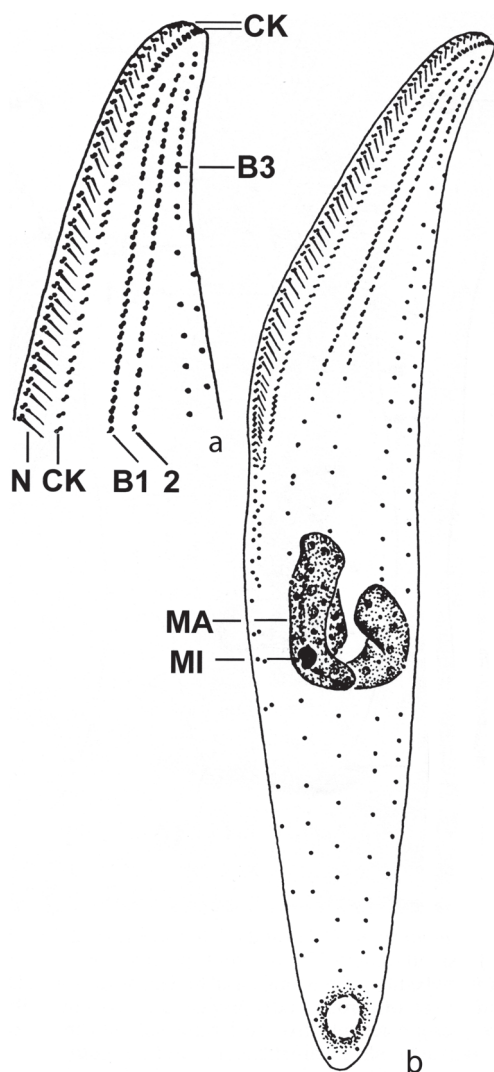


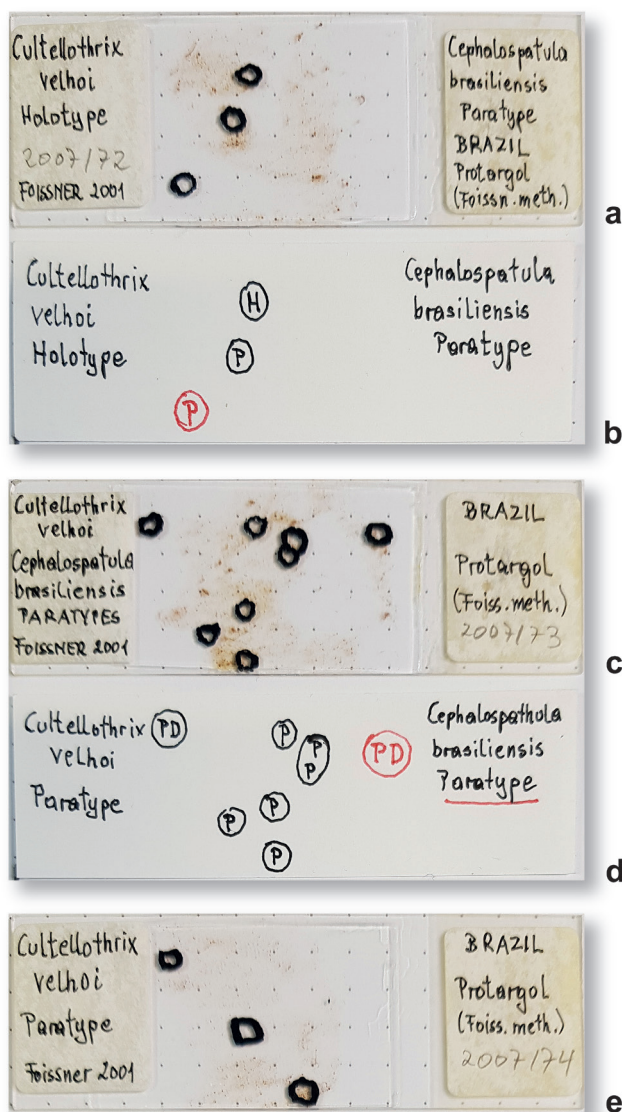
Fig. 13.1a, b *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. (from Foissner 2003a, p. 49. Protargol preparation). **a**, **b**: Left side view (**a**, anterior portion; **b**, total view) of holotype showing ciliary pattern, nuclear apparatus, and contractile vacuole, 132 μ m. B1, 2, B3 – dorsal brush rows, CK – circumoral kinety, MA – macronucleus, MI – micronucleus, N – nematodesmata (oral basket rods).

Occurrence and ecology: *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. is a rare species because W. Foissner did not find it in about 1000 other soil and moss samples, including approximately 100 samples from similar habitats, collected world-wide. For type locality, see above. Although looking fragile, *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. is a rapacious predator feeding mainly on large rotifers, showing that the oral apparatus can open widely and the body is very flexible. “*Cultellothrix velhoi* Foissner, 2003” not recorded by Foissner (2016). Likely no further records published so far.

Note on type material of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b: A paratype slide of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (Fig. 13.2h, i; accession number 2007/76) is simultaneously the holotype slide of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b (p. 128) and the slides 2007/72, 2007/73, 2007/75, 2007/76 are simultaneously paratype slides of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* (Fig. 13.2a–d, f–i). Slide 2007/77 is likewise a paratype slide of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* (Fig. 13.3a, b).

The description of this species is based on three populations (Foissner 2003b, p. 114, 128, Table 2). According to ICZN (1999, Article 72.4.1), the type series of a nominal species-group taxon consists of all specimens included by the author in the new nominal taxon. However, since Foissner (2003b, p. 128) nominated a holotype (his Fig. 68–71) and paratypes from the population from the type locality (Paraná River floodplain, Brazil), the other specimens listed (surroundings of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Puerto Ayacucho, Venezuela) are excluded from the type series (ICZN 1999, Article 72.4.6). Thus, the slides shown in Fig. 13.3c–j containing *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* specimens from Rio de Janeiro and Puerto Ayacucho are voucher specimens, as already mentioned by Foissner (2003b, p. 128). These voucher slides are not listed by Aescht (2008, p. 147).

acucho, Venezuela) are excluded from the type series (ICZN 1999, Article 72.4.6). Thus, the slides shown in Fig. 13.3c–j containing *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* specimens from Rio de Janeiro and Puerto Ayacucho are voucher specimens, as already mentioned by Foissner (2003b, p. 128). These voucher slides are not listed by Aescht (2008, p. 147).



a

b

c

d

e

Fig. 13.2a–e *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. and *Cephalospathula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b (originals). Protargol slides). a, b: Slide (a) and protocol (b) containing holotype of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (H, black) and paratypes of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (P, black) and *Cephalospathula brasiliensis* (P, red; type population). Accession number (LI): 2007/72. c, d: Slide (c) and protocol (d) containing paratypes of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (P, black) and *Cephalospathula brasiliensis* (PD [paratype drawn], red; type population). Accession number (LI): 2007/73. e: Slide containing paratypes of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (P). Accession number (LI): 2007/74. For nomenclature on *Neocultellothrix velhoi*, see text.

Neocultellothrix atypica (Wenzel, 1953) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.

(Fig. 88a–u, 141a–l, n, o, 142a–d and Table 33 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

- 1953 *Spathidium atypicum* nov. spec. – Wenzel, Arch. Protistenk. 99: 81, Abb. 4 (Fig. 88a in Foissner & Xu 2007; original description; no type material available, see nomenclature).
- 1988 *Arcuospathidium australe* nov. spec. – Foissner, Stapfia 17: 99, Abb. 4a–g, Tabelle 3 (Fig. 88b–h in Foissner & Xu 2007; original description of junior, subjective synonym, see next but one entry. For type material, see nomenclature).

- 1998 *Arcuospathidium atypicum* (Wenzel, 1953) nov. comb. – Foissner, Eur. J. Protistol 34: 199 (combination with *Arcuospathidium*).
- 1998 *Arcuospathidium australe* Foissner, 1988, synonym with *A. atypicum* – Foissner, Eur. J. Protistol 34: 199 (synonymisation with *Arcuospathidium atypicum*).
- 2007 *Cultellothrix atypica* (Wenzel, 1953) nov. comb. – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 299, Fig. 88a–u, 141a–l, n, o, Table 33 (detailed revision including description of populations from Austria, South America, and Malaysia; invalid combination, see nomenclature).

Nomenclature: No derivations have been given in the original descriptions. The species-group name *atypicus* (atypical) is a composite of the prefix *a*+ (negation; Werner 1972, p. 58) and the Latin adjective *typic-us*, *-a*, *-um* (m, f, n; typical, archetypical, normal, true; Hentschel & Wagner 1996, p. 597). According to Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 301), this name likely refers to the unusual nuclear pattern which, however, meanwhile has been found in various spathidiids. The Latin adjective *austral-is*, *-is*, *-e* (m, f, n; southern, south, austral; <https://www.frag-caesar.de/lateinwoerterbuch/australe-uebersetzung.html>, accessed 25 Jan 2024) refers to the type locality which is in Australia (Adelaide), that is, in the southern hemisphere. *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name and therefore the combination made by Foissner & Xu (2007) is likewise invalid; for details, see nomenclature at genus section. In future, this

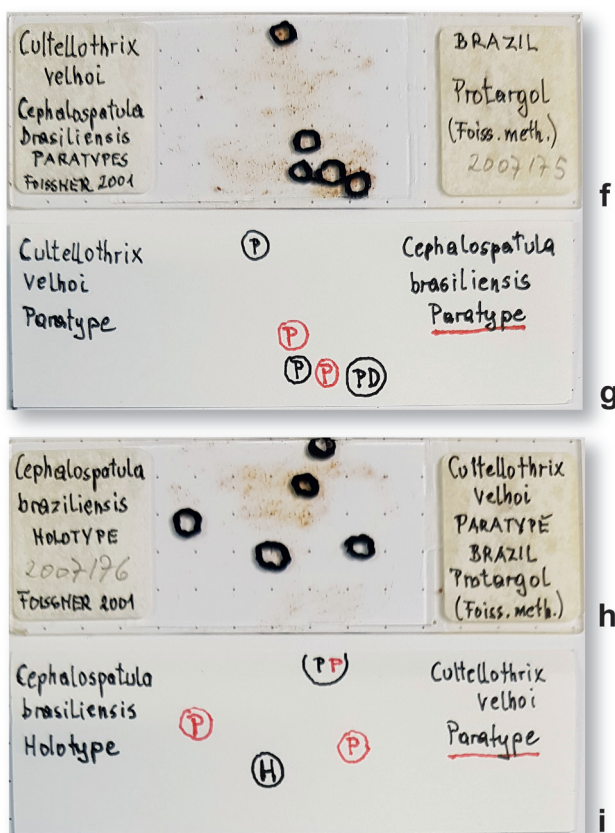


Fig. 13.2f–i *Neocultellothrix velhoi* Foissner nov. spec. and *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b (originals. Protargol slides). f, g: Slide (f) and protocol (g) containing paratypes of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (P, black) and *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* (P, red; type population). Accession number (LI): 2007/75. h, i: Slide (h) and protocol (i) containing paratypes of *Neocultellothrix velhoi* (P, red) and the holotype of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* (H, black) and paratypes of *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* (P, black; type population). Accession number (LI): 2007/76. For nomenclature on *Neocultellothrix velhoi*, see text.

species must be named "*Neocultellothrix atypica* (Wenzel, 1953) Foissner & Xu in Berger et al., 2025" when classified in the present genus.

As shown in the list of synonyms, no type material is available for *Spathidium atypicum* Wenzel, 1953. *Arcuospithidium australe* Foissner, 1988 was classified as a junior subjective synonym of *Spathidium atypicum* by Foissner (1998) and Foissner & Xu (2007). Foissner (1988, p. 88) wrote that for each new species one holotype slide and 0–2 paratype slides are deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz (LI). None of the *Arcuospithidium australe* specimens illustrated by Foissner (1988) was designated as holotype. Foissner (1988) obviously deposited two slides in Linz (Aesch 2008, p. 144). The slide labelled as holotype (accession number 1989/37) has four marks, but unfortunately

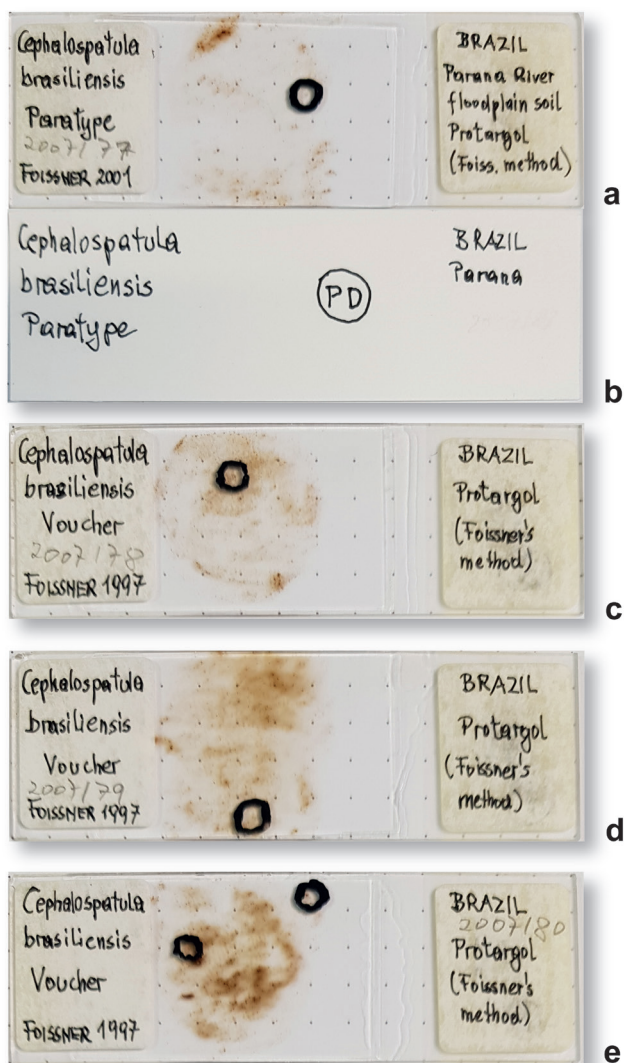


Fig. 13.3a–e *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b (originals. Protargol slides). a, b: Slide (a) and protocol (b) containing paratypes (PD, paratype drawn; type population). Accession number (LI): 2007/77. c–e: Voucher slides from the second population from Brazil, namely from the Restingha area, Rio de Janeiro; details, see Foissner 2003b, p. 114). Accession numbers (LI): 2007/78, 2007/79, 2007/80.

none of them was labelled as holotype (see Fig. 21 in Aescht 2008, p. 135). The second slide (accession number 1987/38) was designated as “PP” meaning “paraphoront/“paratype”” according to Aescht 2008, p. 144, 233). Since no holotype was fixed by Foissner (1988) all specimens of the type series are automatically syntypes (ICZN 1999, Article 73.2). Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 299) discussed that the slides of *Arcuospathidium australe* can serve as neotype slides of *Spathidium atypicum* Wenzel, 1953 because *Arcuospathidium australe* is very similar to several Austrian populations studied recently by W. Foissner. This “neotypification” is however invalid because Foissner & Xu (2007) did not publish the qualifying conditions (ICZN 1999, Article 75.3). Especially the fact that the type population of *Arcuospathidium australe* has its type locality (Adelaide, Australia) very far away from the original

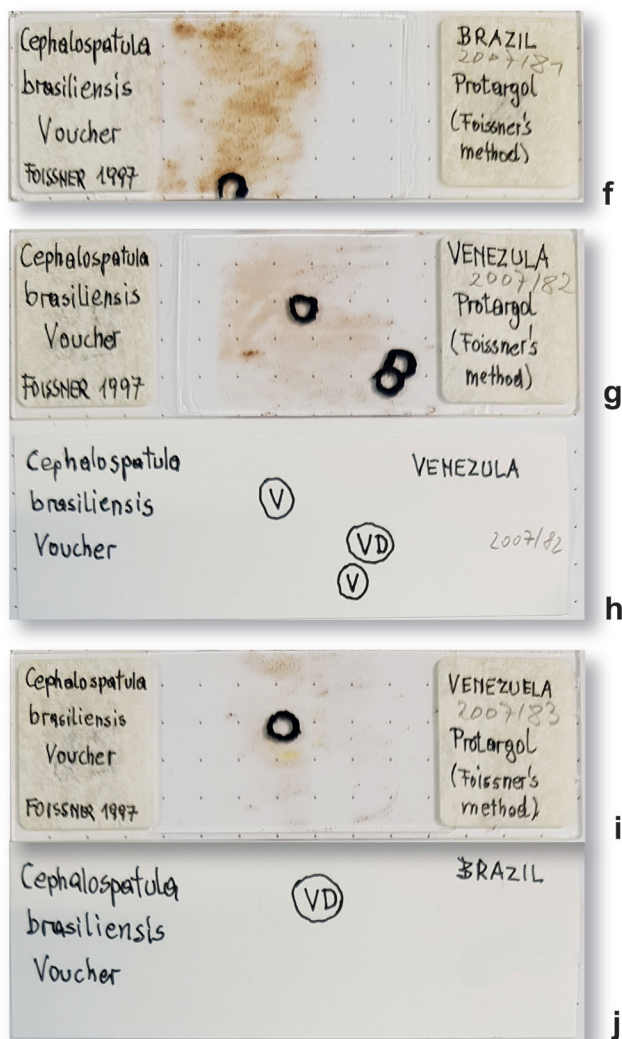


Fig. 13.3f–j *Cephalospatula brasiliensis* Foissner, 2003b (originals. Protargol slides). f: Voucher slide (from the second population from Brazil, namely from the Restingha area; details, see Foissner 2003b, p. 114). Accession number (LI): 2007/81. g, h: Voucher slides (g, i) and protocols (h, j; VD = voucher specimen drawn) from the population from Venezuela. Accession numbers (LI): 2007/82, 2007/83. The “Brazil” on the protocol (j) is very likely a slip of the pen.

type locality of *Spathidium atypicum* Wenzel, 1953 (surroundings of the city of Nürnberg, Germany; see below) disqualifies the Australian type slides as neotypes (ICZN 1999, Article 75.3.6). We recommend fixing a population from the Erlangen region as neotype of *Neocultellothrix atypica*. Further, more detailed studies will show if populations from Australia and Europe are indeed synonymous.

Three voucher slides (accession numbers 2024/175, 176, 177) of the population from Malaysia have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz (LI). They also contain voucher specimens of *Latispathidium simile* Foissner et al., 2025 (for details, see Fig. 7.8f–i, k, l in Chapter 7, that is, Foissner et al. 2025).

Improved diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 299, slightly modified): Body size about 80–90 × 18–22 µm in vivo. Body outline narrowly spatulate with oblique oral bulge about as long as widest trunk region. Two macronuclear nodules with one micronucleus in between. Extrusomes rod-shaped, about 5 µm long. Approximately 12 ciliary rows, three left side rows anteriorly modified to heterostichad dorsal brush occupying about 20% of body length. Brush bristles up to 4 µm long; row 1 composed of an average of 7 dikinetids, row 2 of 10, and row 3 of 6 dikinetids followed by a monokinetid bristle tail extending to mid-body.

Remarks: See Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 299, 306) and nomenclature above.

Description: For description of various populations, including one from Malaysia, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 301).

Occurrence and ecology: The type locality of *Neocultellothrix atypica* (Wenzel, 1953) is not definitely described in the original description. Wenzel (1953, p. 71) collected 298 samples from Bavaria (Germany), which are “mainly” from the immediate and further surroundings of the city of Erlangen, the Franconian Jura (Gößweinstein), and the surroundings of Seeon at lake Chiemsee. He found few specimens in two dry mosses. The type locality of the synonym *Arcuospathidium australe* is the upper soil layer (0–5 cm) of a *Eucalyptus* forest in the Belair National Park near Adelaide, Australia (further details, see Foissner 1988, p. 87 and Blatterer & Foissner 1988, p. 4, “FO14”; entry to National Park about at 34.99810°S 138.63370°E). The Malaysian population is from soil mosses from the fog rainforest on top of Mount G. Brichang, Cameroon Highlands (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 303). For further records and for ecology, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 303). Foissner (2016, p. 27) recorded *Neocultellothrix atypica* from Venezuela (sample site 32, Foissner 2016, p. 17).

***Neocultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.**

(Fig. 83a–r, 84a–h, 85a–x, 138a–x, 139a–n and Tables 30, 31 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

1943 *Spathidium coemeterii* sp. n.⁹ – Kahl, Infusorien, p. 27, Tafel VI, Fig. 19 (Fig. 83d in Foissner & Xu 2007; original description; no type material available).

2004 *Arcuospathidium coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner et al. 2004 – Foissner & Lei, Linzer biol. Beitr. 36: 18, Fig. 32a–h, 33a–x, 34–38, Table 7 (Fig. 84a–h, 85a–x, 139j–n in Foissner & Xu 2007; detailed redescription).

2005 *Arcuospathidium coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) nov. comb. – Foissner, Berger, Xu & Zechmeister-Boltenstern, Biodiv. Conserv. 14: 652, Fig. 7a–r, 8a–t, Table 7 (Fig. 83a–r, 138a–g, k–p, t, u, 139e–i in Foissner

⁹ Kahl (1943) provided the following very brief description (translated by Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 280): “Size 100 µm, similar to *Spathidium muscicola*, but with shorter toxicysts.”

- & Xu 2007; redescription and neotypification; three neotype slides [accession numbers 2007/157–159] have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz [LI], Aeschl 2008, p. 149).
- 2007 *Cultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) **nov. comb.** – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 275, Fig. 83a–r, 84a–h, 85a–x, 138a–x, 139a–n, Tables 30, 31 (detailed revision; invalid combination, see nomenclature).
- 2014 *Cultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner and Xu, 2007 – Vďáčný et al., Protist 165: 108 (gene sequence analyses of Norwegian population; GenBank number KF733755).
- 2016 *Cultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner and Xu, 2007¹⁰ – Kim & Jung, J. Species Res. 5: 336, Fig. 1D (brief description of Korean population. Two voucher slides with protargol-prepared specimens have been deposited in the National Institute of Biological Resources in Korea (NIBRPR0000 107140, NIBRPR0000107141).
- 2021 *Cultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) – Foissner, Ser. Monogr. Cilioph. 5: 109 (brief comparison with *Levisipatha australiensis* Foissner, 2021).

Nomenclature: No etymology has been provided by Kahl (1943). The species-group name *coemeterii* (likely from the Latin noun *coemeterium*; cemetery, graveyard, churchyard; Menge 1988, p. 743) very probably refers to the type locality which was obviously a cemetery (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 275).

Kahl (1943), a monograph overlooked for a very long time (see Foissner & Wenzel 2004 for a facsimile of this monograph), did not describe the type locality. In addition, the original description is extremely short so that a neotypification was indicated to define the species objectively (ICZN 1999, Article 75). Kahl (1943) lived and worked in Hamburg (Germany) indicating that he collected the mosses harboring *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* in this region (however, Kahl sometimes studied material from other regions, e.g., Austria or USA). Thus, Foissner et al. (2005) fixed an Austrian population from a forest soil as neotype. Although they did not publish all qualifying conditions in detail (ICZN 1999, Article 75.3), we recommend accepting the neotypification.

Foissner & Lei (2004) mentioned “Foissner et al. 2004” as combining authors. However, the corresponding work was just published in 2005 (Foissner et al. 2005).

Cultellothrix Foissner, 2003a is not an available name and therefore the combination made by Foissner & Xu (2007) is likewise unavailable; for details, see nomenclature at genus section. In future, this species must be named “*Neocultellothrix coemeterii* (Kahl, 1943) Foissner & Xu in Berger et al., 2025” when classified in the present genus.

Improved diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 275, slightly modified): Body size about $80 \times 23 \mu\text{m}$ in vivo. Body outline narrowly spatulate with oblique, oblong to slightly cuneate oral bulge about as long as widest trunk region. Macronucleus slenderly reniform; single micronucleus. Extrusomes slightly curved, about $6.0 \times 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ -sized rods. On average 12 ciliary rows, 3 anteriorly differentiated to strongly heterostichad dorsal brush occupying about 23% of body length. Brush bristles up to $3 \mu\text{m}$ long; row 1 composed of an average of 12 dikinetids, row 2 of 14, and row 3 of 5 dikinetids followed by a monokinetid bristle tail extending to mid-body.

Remarks: See Foissner & Lei (2004), Foissner et al. (2005, p. 659), Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 280), and nomenclature above.

¹⁰ Kim & Jung (2016) provided the following brief description: “Body size $55 \times 18 \mu\text{m}$ in protargol preparations; body narrowly spatulate with oblong oral bulge. Macronuclear nodule reniform. Contractile vacuole at posterior body end. Cytoplasm colorless. Usually 12 ciliary rows; dorsal brush positioned distinctly lateral side; anterior cilia moderately reduced. Extrusomes cylindrical, colorless. Circumoral kinety closed.”

Description: For description of various populations of *Neocultellothrix coemeterii*, see Foissner & Lei (2004, p. 187), Foissner et al. (2005, p. 652, neotype population), and revision by Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 275). For brief characterization of a Korean population, see Kim & Jung (2016); the specimens of this Asian population were (on average) only $55 \times 18 \mu\text{m}$ in size after protargol preparation.

Morphogenesis: For detailed description of this part of the life cycle, see Foissner & Lei (2004, p. 191) and revision by Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 283). Note that this study is not based on the neotype population, but on a population from soil of a *Hordelymo-Fagetum* (Woodruff-beech) forest in the surroundings of Vienna, Austria (Foissner & Lei 2004, p. 187).

Phylogeny: Vďáčný et al. (2014) sequenced the 18S rRNA (GenBank number KF733755; sequence length 1594 nt, GC content 42.97%). According to Figure 1 in this work, (*Neocultellothrix coemeterii* + *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis*) + *Apobryophyllum schmidingeri* form a cluster.

Occurrence and ecology: Likely confined to terrestrial habitats. The original type locality of *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* is not stated by Kahl (1943; see nomenclature above). The type locality of the neotype population is a *Pinus nigra* forest soil from the Stampftal ($47^{\circ}53'N$ $16^{\circ}02'E$) near Vienna, Austria (Foissner et al. 2005, p. 652). Kim & Jung (2016) recorded the present species from two moss-covered soil samples from a trail of the Taebak mountain ($37^{\circ}06'N$ $128^{\circ}54'E$; collected May 2016), South Korea. Vďáčný et al. (2014) isolated *Neocultellothrix coemeterii* from coniferous litter from the surroundings of Oslo, Norway. For further details, see revision by Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 279).

***Neocultellothrix japonica* (Foissner, 1988) Foissner & Xu nov. comb.**

(Fig. 89a–i, 141m and Table 33 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

1988 *Arcuospathidium japonicum* nov. spec.¹¹ – Foissner, Stapfia 17: 102, Abb. 5a–g, 15, Tabelle 3 (Fig. 89a, b, e–i, 141m in Foissner & Xu 2007; original description. According to Aesch 2008, p. 161, one holotype slide [accession number 1989/13] and one paratype slide [1989/14] have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz [LI]).

2007 *Cultellothrix japonica* (Foissner, 1988) nov. comb. – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 306, Fig. 89a–i, 141m, Table 33 (detailed revision; invalid combination, see nomenclature).

Nomenclature: No etymology has been given in the original description. The species-group name *japonic-us*, *-a*, *-um* (Latin adjective [m, f, n]; originating in Japan; Hentschel & Wagner 1996, p. 335) refers to the country (Japan) where the species was discovered (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 306). *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name and therefore the combination made by Foissner & Xu (2007) is likewise invalid; for details, see nomenclature at genus section. In future, this species must be named “*Neocultellothrix japonica* (Foissner, 1988) Foissner & Xu in Berger et al., 2025” when classified in the present genus.

“*Cultellothrix japonica* Foissner, 1988” in Aesch (2008, p. 193) is a nomenclaturally “non-existing” name. Thus, this entry in her Table 4 is irrelevant.

¹¹ Foissner (1988) provided the following diagnosis: “In vivo etwa $60\text{--}90 \times 15\text{--}25 \mu\text{m}$ großes *Arcuospathidium* mit 2 leicht ellipsoiden Makronucleus-Teilen und dornenförmigen, $4\text{--}5 \mu\text{m}$ langen Extrusomen.” (In English [translated by H. Berger]: In vivo about $60\text{--}90 \times 15\text{--}25 \mu\text{m}$ sized *Arcuospathidium* with 2 slightly ellipsoidal macronucleus nodules and thorn-shaped, $4\text{--}5 \mu\text{m}$ long extrusomes).

Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 306) mentioned an incorrect original combination in their list of synonyms, namely “*Spathidium japonicum* Foissner” (this name is disclaimed for nomenclatural purposes; ICZN 1999, Article 8.3).

Improved diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 306, slightly modified): Body size about $75 \times 17 \mu\text{m}$ in vivo. Body outline narrowly spatulate with oblique oral bulge shorter by 16% than widest trunk region. Two macronucleus nodules with one micronucleus in between. Extrusomes acicular to narrowly ovate, about $5 \mu\text{m}$ long. Approximately 12 ciliary rows, three left side rows anteriorly modified to inconspicuous dorsal brush with bristles up to $3 \mu\text{m}$ long; brush row 3 indistinctly shortened.

Remarks: See Foissner (1988) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 306).

Description: For description of *Neocultellothrix japonica*, see Foissner (1988, p. 102) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 306).

Occurrence and ecology: A rare species according to Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 307). The type locality of *Neocultellothrix japonica* is a deciduous forest (526 m above sea level; $32^{\circ}10'N$ $130^{\circ}E$) on Mt. Kado-yama, Amakusa Islands, Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan, where Foissner (1988, p. 87, 102; see also Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 306) found it with moderate abundance in the upper soil layer (0–5 cm; soil brown, pH 3.5; collector Tadao Matsusaka, Kumamoto University). Further record: in terra firma soil (pH 5.1) of a primary(?) rain forest on a small island of the Anavilhanas archipelago in the Rio Negro near the town of Manaus, Brazil (Foissner 1997, p. 320). According to Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 307), abundances were low in the non-flooded Petri dish cultures and the small and tiny species is well adapted to live in tiny soil pores.

Neocultellothrix lionotiformis (Kahl, 1930) Foissner nov. comb.

(Fig. 82l, m in Foissner & Xu 2007)

- 1930 *Spathidium lionotiforme* spec. n. – Kahl, Arch. Protistenk. 70: 383, Fig. 7h, h₁ (Fig. 82m in Foissner & Xu 2007; original description; no type material available; see nomenclature).
- 1930 *Spathidium lionotiforme* spec. n. – Kahl, Tierwelt Dtl. 18: 165, Fig. 22₂₉ (Fig. 82l in Foissner & Xu 2007; a second time described as new species; see nomenclature; no type material available).
- 1943 *Spathidium lionotiforme* Kahl¹² – Kahl, Infusorien, p. 26, Tafel VI, Fig. 5 (revision; figure very similar to Fig. 82l in Foissner & Xu 2007).
- 1984 *Arcuospathidium lionotiforme* (Kahl, 1930) nov. comb. – Foissner, Stapfia 12: 78 (combination with *Arcuospathidium*; misidentification, see remarks).
- 2002 *Arcuospathidium cultriforme lionotiforme* (Kahl, 1930) Foissner, 1984 nov. stat. – Foissner, Agatha & Berger, Denisia 5: 300 (classification as subspecies of *Arcuospathidium cultriforme* (Penard, 1922) Foissner, 1984; see nomenclature).
- 2003 *Cultellothrix lionotiformis* (Kahl, 1930a) comb. n. – Foissner, Acta Protozool. 42: 53, Fig. 12a, b (Fig. 82l, m in Foissner & Xu 2007; combination with invalid genus *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a; see nomenclature).
- 2007 *Cultellothrix lionotiformis* (Kahl, 1930) Foissner, 2003 – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 269, Fig. 82l, m (detailed revision).

Nomenclature: The species-group name *lionotiformis*, -is, -e (m, f, n; shaped/formed like a *Lionotus*, a pleurostomatid ciliate; see also Kahl 1930b, p. 165, key; Foissner & Xu 2007, p.

¹² Kahl (1943) provided the following very brief description (translated by H. Berger): Body size 140–200 μm . Oral bulge extends ventrally to mid-body, blade-like, *Sphagnum*, but also in *Hottonia*.

269) is a composite of the genus-group name *Lionotus*¹³ and the Latin word *-formis* (-shaped; for details, see <https://de.wiktionary.org/wiki/-formis>, accessed 26 Jan 2024). *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name and therefore the combination made by Foissner (2003) is likewise invalid; for details, see nomenclature at genus section. In future, this species must be named “*Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* (Kahl, 1930) Foissner in Berger et al., 2025” when classified in the present genus. *Spathidium lionoliforme* in Kahl (1930a, p. 378) is an incorrect original spelling (ICZN 1999, Articles 19, 32). The correct original spelling is *Spathidium lionotiforme* (Kahl 1930a, p. 383, 415).

Kahl described this species two times as new (Kahl 1930a, b, see list of synonyms). Since the description by Kahl (1930a) is more detailed and was (very likely) published before Kahl (1930b) this work is considered as original description. *Spathidium lionotiforme* spec. n. in Kahl (1930b) is not a junior primary homonym because the name was not established for a different nominal taxon but for the same material (ICZN 1999, Article 57.2). *Cultellothrix lionotiforme* in Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 237) has an incorrect ending.

Foissner (1984, p. 8) obviously deposited four slides (accession numbers 1984/57–60) in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz (LI; see Aescht 2003, p. 389; 2008, p. 162). According to Aescht (2008), the slides have been labelled (incorrectly) as paratypes by W. Foissner (for details, on paratypes, see ICZN 1999, p. 120). Aescht (2003; see also Aescht 2008, p. 162, 233) interpreted these slides as neotype slides by subsequent designation and thus the sample site (Baumgarten, Lower Austria) of *Arcuospathidium lionotiforme* sensu Foissner (1984) became the new type locality (sample site of neotype material; Aescht 2008). Regrettably, *Arcuospathidium lionotiforme* sensu Foissner (1984) is a misidentification, that is, now this population is classified as *Arcuospathidium cultriforme scalpriforme* (Kahl, 1930a) Foissner, 2003a (for details on complicated taxonomy, see Foissner 2003a, p. 54; Xu & Foissner 2005, p. 16; and Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 236).¹⁴ The “neotypification” introduced by Aescht (2003, 2008) is, however, invalid because Foissner (1984) neither mentioned a neotypification nor did W. Foissner label the slides as neotypes; further, Aescht (2003, 2008) did not publish the qualifying conditions necessary for a valid neotypification (ICZN 1999, Article 75). Consequently, the slides mentioned above (1984/57 to 60) have to be interpreted as voucher slides for *Arcuospathidium cultriforme scalpriforme* (Kahl, 1930a) Foissner, 2003a. For notes on deposition of material investigated by Xu & Foissner (2005), see page 37 of their work.

Diagnosis: Not given in original description (Kahl 1930a denoted the detailed description as diagnosis). Should await reinvestigation with modern methods (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 269).

Remarks: See Foissner (2003a, p. 54), Xu & Foissner (2005, p. 16), and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 236, 270) and nomenclature above (last paragraph).

¹³ The name “*Lionotus*” is disclaimed for nomenclatural purposes (ICZN 1999, Article 8.3). *Lionotus* is an incorrect subsequent spelling of *Litonotus* Wrzesniewski, 1870; perhaps *Lionotus* was used for the first time by Blochmann (1886, p. 62, 65).

¹⁴ Please note that the entries by Foissner (1984) and Foissner et al. (2002) in the list of synonyms serve only to show the nomenclatural acts made in these two works, namely, the combination of *Spathidium lionotiforme* with *Arcuospathidium* by Foissner (1984) and the classification as subspecies by Foissner et al. (2002), respectively. As explained above, the population described by Foissner (1984) does not belong to *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis*!

Description: For description, see Kahl (1930a, b) and Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 269). Note that the redescription of this species by Foissner (1984, p. 78) is a misidentification (see nomenclature above).

Occurrence and ecology: According to Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 270), *Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* is a limnetic and/or semiterrestrial species. Kahl (1930a) found two specimens in *Hottonia* of a marshland ditch (locality not mentioned). Later he found about 10 individuals in a *Sphagnum procerum* cushion; according to Kahl (1930b), this *Sphagnum* moss was collected near Hamburg, Germany, namely in the Eppendorfer Moor, a bog (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 269). Unfortunately, neither Kahl (1930a) nor Kahl (1927) provided details on the sample sites. Further details on occurrence, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 270). Please note that all records of the present species made by W. Foissner until 2003 are misidentifications (see nomenclature).

***Neocultellothrix paucistriata* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb.**

(Fig. 86a–m, 140a–g and Table 32 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

2007 *Cultellothrix paucistriata* nov. spec. – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 290, Fig. 86a–m, 140a–g, Table 32 (original description. The slide containing the holotype [Fig. 86c–e in Foissner & Xu 2007; accession number 2007/56] and two paratype slides [2007/55, 57] have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz [LI], see Aescht 2008, p. 172; see nomenclature).

2008 “*paucistriata Cultellothrix*” Foissner & Xu, 2007 – Aescht, Denisia 23: 172 (notes on type locality, type slides, and “Unavailability due to aphory, ICZN 1999, Article 72.3”; see nomenclature for details).

Nomenclature: The species-group name *paucistriatus*, *-a*, *-um* is a composite of the Latin word *pauci*- (few; Werner 1972, p. 308) and the Latin adjective *striatus*, *-a*, *-um* (m, f, n; striated, having streaks/stripes; Hentschel & Wagner 1996, p. 563) and refers to the low number (7 on average) of ciliary rows (Foissner & Xu 2007). *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name (see nomenclature at genus section) and therefore the species has to be transferred to an available genus (see heading). In future, this species must be named “*Neocultellothrix paucistriata* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) Berger et al., 2025” when classified in the present genus.

Aescht (2008, p. 172) notes under remarks “Nomenclaturally unavailable due to aphory (see Glossary; ICZN 1999 Art. 72.3)”. Aphory basically means, in the present case, that the species was described without fixation of a holotype. For detailed discussion of this problem, see Chapter 1, that is, Berger et al. (2025).

Diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 290, slightly modified): Body size about 65 × 20 µm in vivo. Body outline narrowly spatulate with oblique, slightly cuneate oral bulge shorter than widest trunk region by 40%. Macronucleus usually C-shaped; single micronucleus. Two types of extrusomes: type I narrowly ovate and slightly curved, 3.0 × 0.7 µm in size; type II oblong and about 1.5 µm long. On average 7 ciliary rows, those on left side anteriorly modified to heterostichad, three-rowed dorsal brush occupying about 20% of body length. Brush bristles up to 5 µm long; row 1 composed of an average of 8 dikinetids, row 2 of 8, and row 3 of 6 dikinetids followed by a monokinetidal bristle tail extending to mid-body.

Remarks: See Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 292).

Description: For description, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 290).

Occurrence and ecology: The type locality of *Neocultellothrix paucistriata* is soil from the surroundings of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, namely, the shrub zone of the Restingha area (about 23°30'S 43°W) about 1 km off the Atlantic Sea coast (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 290). Further details, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 292). Post-2007 literature not checked in detail for further records.

***Neocultellothrix tortisticha* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) nov. comb.**

(Fig. 87a–s, 140h–o and Table 32 in Foissner & Xu 2007)

2007 *Cultellothrix tortisticha* nov. spec. – Foissner & Xu, Monogr. biol. 81: 294, Fig. 87a–s, 140h–o, Table 32 (original description. The slide containing the holotype [Fig. 87i, j in Foissner & Xu 2007; accession number 2007/59] and two paratype slides [2007/58, 60] have been deposited in the Biology Centre of the Upper Austrian Museum in Linz [LI], see Aescht 2008, p. 183; see nomenclature).

2008 “*paucistriata Cultellothrix*” Foissner & Xu, 2007 – Aescht, Denisia 23: 172 (notes on type locality, type slides, and “Unavailability due to aphory, ICZN 1999, Article 72.3”; see nomenclature for details).

Nomenclature: The species-group name *tortisticha* is a composite of *torti*- (twisted, Schubert & Wagner 1979, p. 353; *tortus*, a verb in participle, participle of spin, turn/twist, for details, see <https://www.frag-caesar.de/lateinwoerterbuch/tortus-uebersetzung.html>, accessed 26 Jan 2024) and the Greek noun *stichos* (row; Schubert & Wagner 1979, p. 336). The name refers to the propeller blade-like twist of the circumoral kinety and oral bulge, a main feature of this species (Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 294). *Cultellothrix* Foissner, 2003a is not an available name (see nomenclature at genus section) and therefore the species has to be transferred to an available genus (see heading). In future, this species must be named “*Neocultellothrix tortisticha* (Foissner & Xu, 2007) Berger, Xu & Foissner, 2025” when classified in the present genus.

Aescht (2008, p. 183) notes under remarks “Nomenclaturally unavailable due to aphory (see Glossary; ICZN 1999 Art. 72.3)”. Aphory basically means, in the present case, that the species was described without fixation of a holotype. For detailed discussion of this problem, see Chapter 1, that is, Berger et al. (2025).

Diagnosis (from Foissner & Xu 2007, p. 294, slightly modified): Body size about $55 \times 10 \mu\text{m}$ in vivo. Body outline narrowly spatulate with oblique, cuneata oral bulge about 1.2 times as long as widest trunk region; bulge and circumoral kinety screwed like a propeller blade. Two macronucleus nodules with one micronucleus in between. Extrusomes oblong and slightly curved, $2.5\text{--}3.0 \times 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ in size. On average 7 ciliary rows, those (three) on left side anteriorly modified to isostichad dorsal brush occupying about 12% of body length. Brush bristles up to $4 \mu\text{m}$ long; row 1 composed of an average of 5 dikinetids, row 2 of 4, and row 3 of only 3 dikinetids followed by a monokinetidal bristle tail extending to near posterior body end.

Remarks: See Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 299) and nomenclature above.

Description: For description, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 294).

Morphogenesis: For some details on this part of the life cycle, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 298).

Occurrence and ecology: The type locality of *Neocultellothrix tortisticha* is terra firma secondary rain forest soil from the bank of Rio Negro in the surroundings of Hotel Tropical

(about 03.064°S 60.107°W) at Manaus, Brazil. Further details, see Foissner & Xu (2007, p. 299). Post-2007 literature not checked in detail for further records.

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Index

Systematic index

The index contains all ciliate names mentioned in the book, including vernacular names for example, haptorids. Designations as, for example, “haptorid ciliates” are mentioned under the corresponding vernacular name, that is, “haptorids” in present example. Names in singular (e.g., haptorid) are mentioned under the plural version (e.g., haptorids). The index is two-sided, that is, species appear both with the genus-group name first (for example, *Apospathidium atypicum*) and with the species-group name first (*atypicum*, *Apospathidium*). Valid (mainly in W. Foissner’s judgement) species and genera treated in detail are in boldface italics print. Valid taxa not treated in detail in the present book, invalid taxa, junior homonyms, synonyms, outdated combinations, incorrect spellings, and nomina nuda are not in bold. Suprageneric taxa are represented in normal type, valid ones treated in detail in the present work in boldface. A boldface page number indicates the beginning of the description of a valid taxon. “T” indicates the location of the table with the morphometric characterisation; “K” marks a key (e.g., of the genus *Apospathidium*) and the page where a taxon is mentioned in a key. The names on the slide figures and the names of the subchapter “Summary of nomenclatural acts and taxa described in Chapters 1–13” (see Chapter 1, pp. 18–20) are not included.

- Acaryophrya* 143, 207
aciculare*, *Spathidium 33, 62T, 64T, **65**, 68, 220T, 227
acrostoma, *Semiplatyophrya* 9
 Actinobolidae 28
Actinobolina multinucleata 8
 Actinobolinidae 28
affine, *Gonostomum* 381, 382
africana etoschensis, *Rostrophryides* 9
africanum*, *Neospathidium 367, 395, 400, 400K, 401, **418**, 427T
africanum, *Trachelophyllum* 8
Afrothrix 434
Akidodes 435
Akidodes henleae 435
Akidodes symmetricus 435
 Alveolata xv, 1
amicronucleata, *Colpoda cavicola* 9
amphoriforme amphoriforme, *Epispathidium* 162
amphoriforme amphoriforme, *Spathidium* 157, 158, 200T, 201
amphoriforme rectitoratum, *Epispathidium* 198
amphoriforme rectitoratum, *Spathidium* 155, 158, 160, 197, 198, 200T, 201
amphoriforme securiforme, *Epispathidium* 154, 160
amphoriforme securiforme, *Spathidium* 142, 154, 155, 157, 158, 160, 62, 200T, 201, 380
amphoriforme*, *Epispathidium 141, 142, 143K, 145, 158, 160, 164, **197**, 200T, 211, 368, 372, 385
amphoriforme, *Epispathidium amphoriforme* 162
amphoriforme*, *Pharyngospathidium longicbilum 155, 160, 162, 367, 369, 369K, 370, 370T, 371T, 378, **380**, 401
amphoriforme, *Spathidium* 142, 155, 157, 158, 197, 198, 200T, 201
amphoriforme, *Spathidium amphoriforme* 157, 158, 200T, 201
Anatoliocirrus capari 9
anguilla*, *Spathidium 33, 34, 71, 74, **91**, 92T, 276

- angusta obovate*, *Frontonia* 9
Apertospathula 239, 241, 283
Apertospathula cuneata 6
Apertospathula lajacola 6
Apertospathula longiseta 6
Apertospathula pelobia 6
Apertospathula similis 6
Apertospathulidae 25, 27
Apobryophyllum 143, 206
Apobryophyllum schmidingeri 445
Apobryophyllum vermiforme 8
Apocolpodidium Apocolpodidium etoschense 9
Apocolpodidium etoschense, *Apocolpodidium* 9
Apocolpodidium Phagoos macrostoma 9
Apocyclidium obliquum 4
Apometopus Apometopus pyriformis 16
Apometopus pyriformis, *Apometopus* 16
apospathidiforme, *Spathidium* 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 38T, 43, 44T, 112, 114, 119, 301
Apospathidium xv, 28, 43, 111, 112K, 312
Apospathidium atypicum 3, 112, 117
Apospathidium longicaudatum 3, 43, 47, 65, 67, 111, 112, 112K 113T, 114, 117
Apospathidium terricola 111, 112K, 112, 113T, 119, 343
arboricola, *Latispathidium* 213, 214, 215K, 229, 236T, 266
arcuospathidiid 241
Arcuospathidiidae 25, 27, 433
Arcuospathidium 11, 12, 26, 85, 143, 149, 206, 214, 281, 283, 286, 336, 362, 445, 447
Arcuospathidium atypicum 440
Arcuospathidium australe 439, 440, 441, 442, 443
Arcuospathidium bulli 41, 85
Arcuospathidium coemeterii 443
Arcuospathidium cultriforme 446
Arcuospathidium cultriforme cultriforme 196
Arcuospathidium cultriforme lionotiforme 446
Arcuospathidium cultriforme scalpriforme 447
Arcuospathidium deforme 6
Arcuospathidium japonicum 435, 445
Arcuospathidium lionotiforme 446, 447
Arcuospathidium multinucleatum 149
Arcuospathidium muscorum rhopaloplites 6
Arcuospathidium namibiense 11, 12, 214, 233, 235, 258, 266
Arcuospathidium pelobium 6
Arcuospathidium vermiforme 270
Arcuospathidium virugense 7
Arcuospathidium virungense 7
Arcuospathidium vlassaki 214
arenicola, *Protospathidium* 5, 8
Armatospathula 7
Armatospathula costaricana 7
Armatospathula periarmata 7
Armatospathula plurinucleate 7
armatum, *Semispathidium* 311, 312, 313T, 315K, 315, 320, 328
armatum, *Supraspathidium* 8, 335, 336, 337, 338K, 344T, 345T, 348, 353, 360
ascendens, *Epispathidium* 43, 141, 142, 144K, 202
ascendens, *Spathidium* 142, 202, 207
astyliformis, *Vorticella* 103
atypica, *Cultellothrix* 440
atypica, *Neocultellothrix* 18, 117, 241, 242, 243, 433, 435, 436K, 439
atypicum, *Apospathidium* 3, 112, 117
atypicum, *Arcuospathidium* 440
atypicum, *Spathidium* 117, 435, 439, 441, 442, 443
australe, *Arcuospathidium* 439, 440, 441, 442, 443
australiensis, *Bilamellophrya* 134
australiensis, *Levispatha* 418
Australothrix 434
Balantidion 143, 206
bavariense bavariense, *Spathidium* 398
bavariense simplinucleatum, *Spathidium* 398, 399
bavariense, *Pharyngospathidium* 367, 369, 369K, 390, 392, 395, 398, 399, 400
bavariense, *Spathidium* 142, 369, 389, 398, 400
bavariense, *Spathidium bavariense* 398
bavariense, *Spathidium Epispathidium?* 142

- bavariensis*, *Gastrostyla* 15
bavariensis, *Gastrostyla Kleinstyla* 14, 15
 Belonophryina 26
Bilamellophrya australiensis 134
bimacronucleatum, *Latispathidium truncatum* 215, 217T, 219, 220T, 220K, 222
binucleate, *Parakabliella* 14
bisticha, *Schmidingerophrya* 257, 258, 258K, 266, 267, 268T, 270, 271, 272
blattereri, *Enchelydium* 129, 134, 414, 415
bonneti, *Protospathidium* 10
bonneti, *Spathidium* 11, 12, 13, 266, 275
brachycaryon, *Edaphospathula* 7, 238, 242
brachyoplites, *Latispathidium* 213, 214, 215K, 245, 251T
brachystichos, *Neospathidium* 265, 266, 267, 400, 401K, 401, 422, 424, 427T
brachystichos, *Spathidium* 265
bradburyarum, *Colpodidium Pseudocolpodidium* 8
brasiliensis, *Cephalospatula* 87, 434, 437, 438, 439, 441, 442
breviarmatum, *Semispathidium* 311, 312, 315K, 325, 328
bromelicola group, *Spathidium* 33, 34, 61, 62T, 68
bromelicola, *Spathidium* 33, 61, 62T, 62, 63T, 68, 92
Bryophyllum 281, 283, 289, 304
bulli, *Arcuospathidium* 41, 85
Bursaria fluviatilis 418

campylum, *Dexiostoma* 207
canadense, *Spathidium* 141, 147, 170, 172, 367, 372
canaliculatum, *Spathidium* 336
canaliculatum, *Supraspathidium* 336, 337
capari, *Anatoliocirrus* 9
cavicola amiconucleata, *Colpoda* 9
Centrospathidium xv, 28, 127, 136, 138
Centrospathidium faurei 127, 128, 128K, 134, 136
Centrospathidium minutum 127, 128, 128K, 137, 138

Centrospathidium verrucosum 127, 128K, 128, 129T, 138
Centrospathidium verruculosum 129, 134, 135
Cephalospatula brasiliensis 87, 434, 437, 438, 439, 441, 442
chilensis, *Epitholiolus* 14
Ciliophora xv, 25, 33, 111, 127, 141, 213, 257, 281, 335, 367
cithara, *Spathidium* 285
claviforme group, *Spathidium* 233
claviforme, *Spathidium* 215, 233
Clavoplites edaphicus 8
coemeterii, *Arcuospathidium* 443
coemeterii, *Cultellothrix* 3, 444
coemeterii, *Neocultellothrix* 3, 433, 435, 436K, 443
coemeterii, *Spathidium* 435, 443
Colpoda 152
Colpoda cavicola amiconucleata 9
Colpoda fastigata 207
Colpoda formisanoi 9
Colpoda inflata 149
Colpoda maupasi 103
colpodid(s) 1
Colpodidium Colpodidium horribile 8
Colpodidium Colpodidium microstoma 8
Colpodidium Colpodidium trichocystiferum 8
Colpodidium horribile, *Colpodidium* 8
Colpodidium microstoma, *Colpodidium* 8
Colpodidium Pseudocolpodidium bradburyarum 8
Colpodidium trichocystiferum, *Colpodidium* 8
Condyllostomides trinucleatus 9
costaricana, *Armatospathula* 7
costaricensis, *Maryna namibiensis* 9
Cranotheridium 283, 285, 294, 303, 304, 360, 361
Cranotheridium elongatum 336, 359, 360
Cranotheridium elongatus 360
Cranotheridium elongatus, *Pseudoprorodon* 359, 360
Cranotheridium foliosum 304, 306
Cranotheridium foliosus 303, 304
Cranotheridium Ps.? elongatum 360

- Cranotheridium taeniatum* 285, 294, 305
Cultellothrix xv, 7, 143, 206, 233, 433, 434, 435, 440, 444, 446, 447, 448, 449
Cultellothrix atypica 440
Cultellothrix coemeterii 3, 444
Cultellothrix japonica 445
Cultellothrix lionotiforme 447
Cultellothrix lionotiformis 446
Cultellothrix paucistriata 7, 435, 448
Cultellothrix tortisticha 7, 435, 449
Cultellothrix velhoi 6, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438
cultellum, *Semibryophyllum* 281, 282T, 283, 285K, **285**, 291, 293, 303, 306
cultriforme cultriforme, *Arcuospathidium* 196
cultriforme lionotiforme, *Arcuospathidium* 446
cultriforme scalpriforme, *Arcuospathidium* 447
cultriforme, *Arcuospathidium* 446
cultriforme, *Arcuospathidium cultriforme* 196
cuneata, *Apertospathula* 6
curvioplites, *Spathidium saprophilum* 33, 62T, 67, 70, **71**, 73T
cylindricum, *Spathidium* 314

deforme, *Arcuospathidium* 6
depressa, *Frontonia* 191
depressum, *Spathidium* 289
Dexiostoma campylum 207
Dexiotricha plagia 339
Didiniina 25, 26
Dioplitophrya otti 8
dispar, *Spathidium* 33, 34, 37, 38, 38T, 41, 44T, **59**
dragescoi, *Nassula* 8
Dragescozoon terricola 9
Drepanomonas revoluta 373, 379
dschli, *Spathidium* 33, 34, 37, 38, 38T, **59**, 60T, 90, 91

edaphicus, *Clavoplites* 8
Edaphospathula brachycaryon 7, 238, 242
Edaphospathula fusioplites 5, 224, 227, 228, 276
Edaphospathula gracilis 7, 238, 242
Edaphospathula inermis 8

Edaphospathula paradoxa 5, 8, 250
elegans, *Isiella* 9
elementitanum, *Spathidium* 67
elongatum group, *Spathidium* 33, **34**, 44T, 61, 91
elongatum, *Cranotheridium* 336, 359, 360
elongatum, *Cranotheridium* Ps.? 360
elongatum, *Supraspathidium* 335, 337, 338K, 339, 358, **359**, 362
elongatus, *Cranotheridium* 360
elongatus, *Pseudoprorodon* *Cranotheridium* 359, 360
Enchelydium 368, 414
Enchelydium blattereri 129, 134, 414, 415
Enchelydium thecatum 414, 415
Enchelyina 111, 112
Enchelyodon 143, 207, 311, 312, 314, 315, 318, 320, 322, 368
Enchelyodon kenyaensis 9, 10
Enchelyodon megastoma 8
Enchelyodon terrenus 315, 316, 320
Enchelyodon vermiformis 314, 320
Enchelyodontidae 368
enchelyodontides, *Semispithidium* 311, 312, 313T, 315K, **315**, 320, 322, 328
Enchelyotricha jesnerae 8
Enchelys 143, 206, 315, 320
Enchelys gigas 361, 362
Enchelys longitricha 8
Enchelys polynucleata 326
Enchelys spathula 162
Enchelys terricola 315
Epispithidium xv, 26, 27, 28, 34, 89, 91, 97, 141, **142**, 224, 290, 336, 367, 368, 369, 372, 374, 385, 395, 401, 423
Epispithidium amphoriforme 141, 142, 143K, 145, 158, 160, 164, **197**, 200T, 211, 368, 372, 385
Epispithidium amphoriforme amphoriforme 162
Epispithidium amphoriforme rectitoratum 198
Epispithidium amphoriforme securiforme 154, 160
Epispithidium ascendens 43, 141, 142, 144K, **202**

- Epispathidium papilliferum* 141, 142, 143K, 147, 174, 192T, 194T, 211
Epispathidium polynucleatum 34, 91, 96, 141, 142
Epispathidium regium 141, 142, 143, 143K, 144, 150T, 160, 164, 170, 172, 395, 423
Epispathidium salsum 141, 142, 143K, 147, 166, 167T
Epispathidium securiforme 141, 142, 143, 143K, 154, 154T, 200T, 201, 372
Epispathidium sp. 211
Epispathidium terricola 141, 142, 143K, 196, 224, 228, 372
Epispathidium? *bavariense*, *Spathidium* 142
Epitholiolus chilensis 14
etoschense, *Apocolpodidium* *Apocolpodidium* 9
etoschense, *Spathidium* 33, 62T, 64T, 65, 214, 220T, 225, 227, 276
etoschense, *Spathidium seppelti* 149, 423
etoschense, *Supraspathidium* 8, 335, 336, 338K, 344T, 345T, 345, 346, 354, 360
etoschensis, *Nassula* 8
etoschensis, *Parabryophrya* 9
etoschensis, *Pseudokreyella* 9
etoschensis, *Rostrophryides africana* 9
Etoschophrya oscillatoriophaga 9
extensum, *Spathidium* 35
falciforme, *Spathidium* 230, 233
fastigata, *Colpoda* 207
faurefremietii, *Spathidium* 33, 41, 86, 87T, 337, 358
faurei, *Centrospathidium* 127, 128, 128K, 134, 136
faurei, *Spathidium* 86, 136
fenestrate, *Rostrophrya* 14
fluviatilis, *Bursaria* 418
foliosum, *Cranotheridium* 304, 306
foliosum, *Semibryophyllum* 281, 283T, 283, 285, 285K, 291, 303
foliosus, *Cranotheridium* 303, 304
foliosus, *Pseudoprorodon* 283, 303, 304, 306
formisanoi, *Colpoda* 9
fraterculum, *Semispathidium* 311, 312, 315K, 328, 329, 330
Frontonia angusta obovate 9
Frontonia depressa 191
fusioplites, *Edaphospathula* 5, 224, 227, 228, 276
fusioplites, *Protospathidium* 224
Gastrostyla bavariensis 15
Gastrostyla Kleinstyla 15
Gastrostyla Kleinstyla bavariensis 14, 15
Gastrostyla minima 14
Gigantothrix 434
gigas, *Enchelys* 361, 362
gigas, *Pseudoprorodon* *Spathidium* 361, 362
gigas, *Spathidium* 336, 361, 362
gigas, *Supraspathidium* 335, 336, 337K, 358, 361
Gonostomum affine 381, 382
Gonostomum strenuum 319
gracilis, *Edaphospathula* 7, 238, 242
granata, *Nassula* 8, 353
group, *Spathidium bromelicola* 33, 34, 61, 62T, 68
group, *Spathidium claviforme* 233
group, *Spathidium elongatum* 33, 34, 44T, 61, 91
group, *Spathidium procerum* 34, 65, 90, 91
group, *Spathidium wolffi* 33, 34, 85
gymnostomatid 368
gymnostomes 324
halophila, *Parakabliella* 9
halophilus, *Plagiocampides* 9
Haptoria xv, 25, 26, 433
haptorids 25
henleae, *Akidodes* 435
Heterometopus meisterfeldi 1, 15, 16, 17
Heterometopus palaeformis 1, 16
histriomuscorum, *Sterkiella* 416
Holophrya 257
Holophryidae 27
holsatae, *Spathidium* 414
Homalozoon 359, 360
Homalozoon vermiculare 359, 360

- horribile*, *Colpodidium* *Colpodidium* 8
hyalinum, *Spathidium* 3, 28, 38, 160
hypotrachs 83
- Ilisiella elegans* 9
inermis, *Edaphospathula* 8
inflata, *Colpoda* 149
inflatum, *Spathidium* 289
- japonica*, *Cultellothrix* 445
japonica, *Neocultellothrix* 433, 435, 436K, 445
japonicum, *Arcuospathidium* 435, 445
japonicum, *Pseudomonilicaryon* 8
japonicum, *Spathidium* 446
jesnerae, *Enchelyotricha* 8
- kenyaensis*, *Enchelyodon* 9, 10
Kleinstyla 15
Kleinstyla bavariensis, *Gastrostyla* 14, 15
Kleinstyla, *Gastrostyla* 15
Kreutzophrya 312, 314
Kreutzophrya sphagnicola 312, 314
Kuehneltiella namibiensis 9
Kuklikophrya ougandae 353
- Lacrymaria* 219, 338
Lacrymaria teres 335, 336, 337, 338
Lacrymaria truncata 218, 221
Lacrymaria truncatum, *Spathidium* 219, 221
Lacrymaria, *Spathidium* 219
lagyniforme, *Semispithidium* 311, 312, 313T, 315K, 315, 320, 322, 328
lagyniforme, *Spathidium* 312
Lagynophrya 143, 206
lajacola, *Apertospathula* 6
laminarius, *Metopus* 15, 16
Lamtostyla 277
lanceoplites, *Latispathidium* 213, 214, 215K, 215, 217T, 225
lanceoplites, *Spathidium* 213, 215
Latispathidium xv, 28, 213
Latispathidium arboricola 213, 214, 215K, 229, 236T, 266
Latispathidium brachyoplites 213, 214, 215K, 245, 251T
Latispathidium lanceoplites 213, 214, 215K, 215, 217T, 225
Latispathidium simile 213, 214, 215K, 232, 238, 244T, 443
Latispathidium truncatum 213, 214, 215K, 218, 221, 249
Latispathidium truncatum bimacronucleatum 215, 217T, 219, 220T, 220K, 222
Latispathidium truncatum truncatum 215, 219, 220K, 221, 223, 224, 226, 227
latissimum, *Spathidium* 33, 89, 336
latissimum, *Supraspathidium* 89, 336, 337
Legendrea 28, 211
Legendrea loyzeae 211
Levispatha australiensis 418
Levispatha muscorum 43, 47, 58
lieberkuehnii, *Myriokaryon* 358, 360, 362
lieberkuehnii, *Prorodon* 336, 337
lieberkuehnii, *Pseudoprorodon* 360, 361
lieberkuehnii, *Spathidium* 337
lieberkuehnii, *Supraspathidium* 336, 337
lieberkühni, *Spathidium* 136, 337
lieberkühni, *Prorodon* 337
lionoliforme, *Spathidium* 447
lionotiforme, *Arcuospathidium* 446, 447
lionotiforme, *Arcuospathidium cultriforme* 446
lionotiforme, *Cultellothrix* 447
lionotiforme, *Spathidium* 435, 446, 447
lionotiformis, *Cultellothrix* 446
lionotiformis, *Neocultellothrix* 289, 433, 435, 436K, 445, 446
Lionotus 447
Litonotus 447
Litonotus vermicularis 359, 360, 361
Litostomatea 25
loeffleri, *Wolffkonia* 9
longiarmatum, *Semispithidium* 311, 312, 315K, 326, 329, 330
longicaudatum, *Apospathidium* 3, 43, 47, 65, 67, 111, 112, 112K 113T, 114, 117
longicaudatum, *Spathidium* 117, 119
longichilum amphoriforme, *Pharyngospathid-*

- ium* 155, 160, 162, 367, 369, 369K, 370, 370T, 371T, 378, **380**, 401
- longichilum longichilum*, *Pharyngospathidium* 367, 369K, 370, 371T, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, **378**, 386, 387, 401
- longichilum*, *Pharyngospathidium* 367, 369, 369K, **370**, 378
- longichilum*, *Pharyngospathidium longichilum* 367, 369K, 370, 371T, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, **378**, 386, 387, 401
- longicolum*, *Spathidium* 314
- longinucleatum*, *Neospathidium* 129, 134, 367, 400, 400K, **401**, 413T, 422
- longiseta*, *Apertospathula* 6
- longitricha*, *Enchelys* 8
- loyezae*, *Legendrea* 211
- lucidum*, *Spathidium* 414
- macrostoma*, *Apocolpodidium* *Phagoon* 9
- macrostoma*, *Spathidium* 149
- macrostomum*, *Spathidium* 141, 149, 367, 372, 374
- macrothrix*, *Schmidingerophrya* 257, 258, 258K, **258**, 268T, 272, 275, 425
- magna*, *Pseudofuscheria* 418
- maldivensis*, *Rostrophrya namibiensis* 9
- Maryna namibiensis costaricensis* 9
- Maryna namibiensis namibiensis* 9
- maupasi*, *Colpoda* 103
- megastoma*, *Enchelyodon* 8
- meisterfeldi*, *Heterometopus* 1, 15, 16, 17
- metabolicum*, *Spathidium* 92
- Metacineta namibiensis* 8
- Metacystis mucosa* 1, 15
- Metopus laminarius* 15, 16
- microstoma*, *Colpodidium* *Colpodidium* 8
- microthoracids* 83
- minima*, *Gastrostyla* 14
- minutum*, *Centrospathidium* 127, 128, 128K, 137, **138**
- minutum*, *Spathidium* 339
- mucosa*, *Metacystis* 1, 15
- multinucleata*, *Actinobolina* 8
- multinucleatum*, *Arcuospathidium* 149
- multistriata*, *Supraspathidium* 339
- multistriatum*, *Supraspathidium* 335, 336, 337, 338K, **339**, 344T, 345T, 345, 346, 348, 356
- musciola*, *Protospathidium* 5, 12, 326
- musciola*, *Spathidium* 41, 61, 196, 197, 443
- muscorum rhopaloplites*, *Arcuospathidium* 6
- muscorum*, *Levispatha* 43, 47, 58
- Myriokaryon* 337, 360, 361
- Myriokaryon lieberkuehnii* 358, 360, 362
- Myriokaryonidae* 337, 368
- namibicola*, *Protospathidium* 354
- namibicola*, *Spathidium* 346
- namibiense*, *Arcuospathidium* 11, 12, 214, 233, 235, 258, 266
- namibiensis costaricensis*, *Maryna* 9
- namibiensis maldivensis*, *Rostrophrya* 9
- namibiensis namibiensis*, *Maryna* 9
- namibiensis namibiensis*, *Rostrophrya* 14
- namibiensis*, *Kuehneltiella* 9
- namibiensis*, *Maryna namibiensis* 9
- namibiensis*, *Metacineta* 8
- namibiensis*, *Plagiocampa* 9
- namibiensis*, *Rostrophrya namibiensis* 14
- Nassula* 357
- Nassula dragescoi* 8
- Nassula etoschensis* 8
- Nassula granata* 8, 353
- Nassula tuberculata* 14
- Neocultellothrix* xiii, xv, 213, 214, 241, 433, **434**, 436K
- Neocultellothrix atypica* 18, 117, 241, 242, 243, 433, 435, 436K, **439**
- Neocultellothrix coemeterii* 3, 433, 435, 436K, **443**
- Neocultellothrix japonica* 433, 435, 436K, **445**
- Neocultellothrix lionotiformis* 289, 433, 435, 436K, 445, **446**
- Neocultellothrix paucistriata* 433, 435, 436K, **448**
- Neocultellothrix tortisticha* 245, 433, 435, 436K, **449**

- Neocultellothrix velhoi* 18, 87, 289, 433, 435, 436K, **436**
- Neospathidium* xv, 149, 367, 368, 369K, **400**, 400K
- Neospathidium africanum* 367, 395, 400, 400K, 401, **418**, 427T
- Neospathidium brachystichos* 265, 266, 267, 400, 401K, 401, 422, **424**, 427T
- Neospathidium longinucleatum* 129, 134, 367, 400, 400K, **401**, 413T, 422
- obliquum*, *Apocyclus* 4
- obovate*, *Frontonia angusta* 9
- oscillatoriphaga*, *Etoschophrya* 9
- otti*, *Dioplitophrya* 8
- ougandae*, *Kuklikophrya* 353
- palaeformis*, *Heterometopus* 1, 16
- palustre*, *Semibryophyllum* 281, 282T, 283, 285, 285K, **291**, 306, 308
- pannonicum*, *Trachelophyllum* 8
- papillatum*, *Spathidium* 189
- papilliferum*, *Epispathidium* 141, 142, 143K, 147, **174**, 192T, 194T, 211
- papilliferum*, *Spathidium* 142, 14, 180, 189, 190
- papilliferum*, *Vartospathidium* 174
- Parabryophrya etoschensis* 9
- paradoxa*, *Edaphospathula* 5, 8, 250
- Paraenchelys pulchra* 8
- Parakabliella binucleate* 14
- Parakabliella halophila* 9
- paucistriata*, *Cultellothrix* 7, 435, 448
- paucistriata*, *Neocultellothrix* 433, 435, 436K, **448**
- pelobia*, *Apertospathula* 6
- pelobium*, *Arcuospathidium* 6
- pentadactyla*, *Plagiocampa* 9
- periar mata*, *Armatospathula* 7
- peritrich* 9
- Phagoon macrostoma*, *Apocolpodidium* 9
- Pharyngospathidiidae** xv, 18, 25, 27, **367**, 369K
- pharyngospathidiids 368
- Pharyngospathidium* xv, 149, 318, 367, 368, 369K, **369**, 369K, 401
- Pharyngospathidium bavariense* 367, 369, 369K, 390, 392, 395, **398**, 399, 400
- Pharyngospathidium longichilum* 367, 369, 369K, **370**, 378
- Pharyngospathidium longichilum amphoriforme* 155, 160, 162, 367, 369, 369K, 370, 370T, 371T, 378, **380**, 401
- Pharyngospathidium longichilum longichilum* 367, 369K, 370, 371T, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, **378**, 386, 387, 401
- Pharyngospathidium pseudobavariense* 367, 369, 369K, 370T, 371, **389**, 398, 422
- Pharyngospathidium simplinucleatum* 367, 369, 369K, 391, **399**, 401, 403, 425
- Phialina serranoi* 1, 15
- plagia*, *Dexiotricha* 339
- Plagiocampa namibiensis* 9
- Plagiocampa pentadactyla* 9
- Plagiocampides halophilus* 9
- Plesiocaryon terricola* 9
- plurinucleate*, *Armatospathula* 7
- plurinucleate*, *Spathidium spathula* 90
- plurinucleatum*, *Spathidium* 90
- Podophrya* 164
- Podophrya tristriata* 8
- polymorphum*, *Spathidium* 202, 205, 206
- polynucleate*, *Enchelys* 326
- polynucleatum*, *Epispathidium* 34, 91, 96, 141, 142
- polynucleatum*, *Spathidium* 33, 34, 91, **96**, 104T, 141, 142, 147, 205
- polyvacuolatum*, *Spathidium* 33, **90**, 336
- polyvacuolatum*, *Supraspathidium* 90, 336, 337
- procerum* group, *Spathidium* 34, 65, 90, 91
- procerum*, *Spathidium* 34, 35, 91, 94, 95, 250
- Prorodon lieberkuehnii* 336, 337
- Prorodon lieberkuehnii* 337
- Protista xv
- Protocyclidium terricola* 103
- protospathidiids 245
- Protospathidium* 11, 12, 27, 35, 38, 50, 59, 61, 75, 83, 143, 216, 239, 261, 266, 276, 312

- Protospathidium arenicola* 5, 8
Protospathidium bonneti 10
Protospathidium fusioplites 224
Protospathidium muscicola 5, 12, 326
Protospathidium namibicola 354
Protospathidium serpens 12, 250
Protospathidium terricola 215
Protospathidium vermiculus 8, 215
***Protospathidium vermiforme* 10, 266, 276**
 Protospathidiidae 25, 27
Ps. ? elongatum, *Cranotheridium* 360
***pseudobavariense*, *Pharyngospathidium* 367,**
 369, 369K, 370T, 371, **389**, 398, 422
Pseudocohnilembus sp. 270
Pseudocolpodidium, *bradburyarum*, *Colpodidium* 8
Pseudofuscheria magna 418
Pseudoholophrya 143, 207
Pseudokreyella etoschensis 9
Pseudomonilicaryon japonicum 8
Pseudoprorodon 303, 359, 360, 361, 362
Pseudoprorodon Cranotheridium elongatus 359, 360
Pseudoprorodon foliosus 283, 303, 304, 306
Pseudoprorodon lieberkuehnii 360, 361
Pseudoprorodon Spathidium gigas 361, 362
pulchra, *Paraenchelys* 8
***pulchrum*, *Semispathidium* 311, 312, 315K,**
 328, 329, **330**
pyriformis, *Apometopus Apometopus* 16
pyriformis, *Tetrachymena* 416

rectitoratum, *Epispathidium amphoriforme* 198
rectitoratum, *Spathidium* 160
rectitoratum, *Spathidium amphoriforme* 155, 158, 160, 197, 198, 200T, 201
***regium*, *Epispathidium* 141, 142, 143, 143K,**
 144, 150T, 160, 164, 170, 172, 395, 423
revoluta, *Drepanomonas* 373, 379
rhopaloplites, *Arcuospathidium muscorum* 6
Rostrophrya fenestrata 14
Rostrophrya namibiensis maldivensis 9
Rostrophrya namibiensis namibiensis 14
Rostrophryides africana etoschensis 9

***rusticanum*, *Spathidium* 4, 33, 62T, 68, 74,**
 82T, 425

***salsum*, *Epispathidium* 141, 142, 143K, 147,**
 166, 167T
***saprophilum curvioplites*, *Spathidium* 33,**
 62T, 67, 70, **71**, 73T
***saprophilum saprophilum*, *Spathidium* 33,**
 62T, 66, 67, **68**, 73T, 74
***saprophilum*, *Spathidium* 33, 67, 68, 69, 74,**
 75, 95
***saprophilum*, *Spathidium saprophilum* 33,**
 62T, 66, 67, **68**, 73T, 74
scalpriforme, *Arcuospathidium cultriforme* 447
schmidingeri, *Apobryophyllum* 445
***Schmidingerophrya* xv, 28, 257, 258K**
***Schmidingerophrya bisticha* 257, 258, 258K,**
 266, 267, 268T, 270, 271, **272**
***Schmidingerophrya macrobrix* 257, 258,**
 258K, **258**, 268T, 272, 275, 425
***securiforme*, *Epispathidium* 141, 142, 143,**
 143K, **154**, 154T, 200T, 201, 372
securiforme, *Epispathidium amphoriforme* 154, 160
securiforme, *Spathidium* 155, 158
securiforme, *Spathidium amphoriforme* 142, 154, 155, 157, 158, 160, 62, 200T, 201, 380
***Semibryophyllum* xv, 28, 258, 281, 285K**
***Semibryophyllum cultellum* 281, 282T, 283,**
 285K, **285**, 291, 293, 303, 306
***Semibryophyllum foliosum* 281, 283T, 283,**
 285, 285K, 291, **303**
***Semibryophyllum palustre* 281, 282T, 283,**
 285, 285K, **291**, 306, 308
Semiplatyophrya acrostoma 9
***Semispathidium* xv, 28, 143, 207, 311, 312,**
 315K
***Semispathidium armatum* 311, 312, 313T,**
 315K, 315, **320**, 328
***Semispathidium breviarmatum* 311, 312,**
 315K, **325**, 328
***Semispathidium enchelyodontides* 311, 312,**
 313T, 315K, **315**, 320, 322, 328
***Semispathidium fraterculum* 311, 312, 315K,**

- 328, **329**, 330
Semispathidium lagyniforme 311, 312, 313T, 315K, 315, 320, **322**, 328
Semispathidium longiarmatum 311, 312, 315K, **326**, 329, 330
Semispathidium pulchrum 311, 312, 315K, 328, 329, **330**
Semispathidium sp. 326
seppelti etoschense, *Spathidium* 149, 423
seppelti seppelti, *Spathidium* 423
seppelti, *Spathidium* 395, 423
seppelti, *Spathidium seppelti* 423
serpens, *Protospathidium* 12, 250
serpens, *Spinispatha* 250
serranoi, *Phialina* 1, 15
simile, *Latispathidium* 213, 214, 215K, 232, **238**, 244T, 443
similis, *Apertospathula* 6
simplinucleatum, *Pharyngospathidium* 367, 369, 369K, 391, **399**, 401, 403, 425
simplinucleatum, *Spathidium* 369, 399
simplinucleatum, *Spathidium bavariense* 398, 399
sp., *Epispathidium* 211
sp., *Pseudocohnilembus* 270
sp., *Semispathidium* 326
sp., *Spathidium* 221, 423
Spathidia 29
spathiidiid(s) xiii, 1, 3, 25, 26, 143, 368
Spathidiida 25, **26**, 27K
Spathidiidae 25, 26, **27**, 33, 111, 112, 127, 141, 142, 213, 214, 257, 281, 283, 312, 335, 336, 337, 367, 368
Spathidiina 26, 368, 434
Spathidium xv, 1, 2, 3, 11, 12, 25, 26, 27, **28**, 29, 33, 34, 38, 39, 43, 53, 59, 75, 83, 85, 91, 97, 103, 111, 127, 136, 141, 142, 143, 160, 170, 190, 197, 204, 213, 214, 224, 228, 258, 260, 276, 283, 290, 306, 311, 312, 314, 319, 320, 335, 336, 337, 338, 361, 362, 367, 369, 374, 395, 400, 401, 403, 423
Spathidium aciculare 33, 62T, 64T, **65**, 68, 220T, 227
Spathidium amphoriforme 142, 155, 157, 158, 197, 198, 200T, 201
Spathidium amphoriforme amphoriforme 157, 158, 200T, 201
Spathidium amphoriforme rectitoratum 155, 158, 160, 197, 198, 200T, 201
Spathidium amphoriforme securiforme 142, 154, 155, 157, 158, 160, 62, 200T, 201, 380
Spathidium anguilla 33, 34, 71, 74, **91**, 92T, 276
Spathidium apospathidiforme 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 38T, **43**, 44T, 112, 114, 119, 301
Spathidium ascendens 142, 202, 207
Spathidium atypicum 117, 435, 439, 441, 442, 443
Spathidium bavariense 142, 369, 389, 398, 400
Spathidium bavariense bavariense 398
Spathidium bavariense simplinucleatum 398, 399
Spathidium bonneti 11, 12, 13, 266, 275
Spathidium brachystichos 265
Spathidium bromelicola 33, 61, 62T, **62**, 63T, 68, 92
***Spathidium bromelicola* group** 33, 34, **61**, 62T, 68
Spathidium canadense 141, **147**, 170, 172, 367, 372
Spathidium canaliculatum 336
Spathidium cithara 285
Spathidium claviforme 215, 233
Spathidium claviforme group 233
Spathidium coemeterii 435, 443
Spathidium cylindricum 314
Spathidium depressum 289
Spathidium dispar 33, 34, 37, 38, 38T, 41, 44T, **59**
Spathidium duschli 33, 34, 37, 38, 38T, **59**, 60T, 90, 91
Spathidium elmenteitanum 67
Spathidium elongatum 3, 33, 34, 35, **36**, 38T, 57
Spathidium elongatum 3, 33, 34, 35, **36**, 38T, 57
***Spathidium elongatum* group** 33, 34, 44T, 61, 91

- Spathidium Epispathidium? bavariense* 142
Spathidium etoschense 33, 62T, 64T, **65**, 214, 220T, 225, 227, 276
Spathidium extensum 35
Spathidium falciforme 230, 233
Spathidium faurefremietii 33, 41, **86**, 87T, 337, 358
Spathidium faurei 86, 136
Spathidium gigas 336, 361, 362
Spathidium gigas, *Pseudoprorodon* 361, 362
Spathidium holsatae 414
Spathidium hyalinum 3, 28, 38, 160
Spathidium inflatum 289
Spathidium japonicum 446
Spathidium Lacrymaria 219
Spathidium Lacrymaria truncatum 219, 221
Spathidium lagyniforme 312
Spathidium lanceoplites 213, 215
Spathidium latissimum 33, **89**, 336
Spathidium lieberkuehnii 337
Spathidium lieberkühni 136, 337
Spathidium lionoliforme 447
Spathidium lionotiforme 435, 446, 447
Spathidium longicaudatum 117, 119
Spathidium longicolum 314
Spathidium lucidum 414
Spathidium macrostoma 149
Spathidium macrostomum 141, 149, 367, 372, 374
Spathidium metabolicum 92
Spathidium minutum 128, 138
Spathidium muscicola 41, 61, 196, 197, 443
Spathidium namibicola 346
Spathidium papillatum 189
Spathidium papilliferum 142, 14, 180, 189, 190
Spathidium plurinucleatum 90
Spathidium polymorphum 202, 205, 206
Spathidium polynucleatum 33, 34, 91, **96**, 104T, 141, 142, 147, 205
Spathidium polyvacuolatum 33, **90**, 336
Spathidium procerum 34, 35, 91, 94, 95, 250
Spathidium procerum group 34, 65, 90, 91
Spathidium rectitoratum 160
Spathidium rusticanum 4, 33, 62T, 68, 74, 82T, 425
Spathidium saprophilum 33, 67, 68, 69, 74, 75, 95
Spathidium saprophilum curvioplites 33, 62T, 67, 70, **71**, 73T
Spathidium saprophilum saprophilum 33, 62T, 66, 67, **68**, 73T, 74
Spathidium securiforme 155, 158
Spathidium seppelti 395, 423
Spathidium seppelti etoschense 149, 423
Spathidium seppelti seppelti 423
Spathidium simplinucleatum 369, 399
Spathidium sp. 221, 423
Spathidium spathula 162, 219, 368, 414
Spathidium spathula plurinucleate 90
Spathidium stammeri 41, 65, 204
Spathidium teres 338
Spathidium terricola 196, 228
Spathidium truncatum 219, 221
Spathidium turgitorum 34, 35, 39, 47, 58, 59, 91, 92, 214
Spathidium vermiculus 138
Spathidium vermiforme 87, 336, 357
Spathidium wolffi 33, **85**, 87T
Spathidium wolffi group 33, 34, **85**
spathula plurinucleate, *Spathidium* 90
spathula, *Enchelys* 162
spathula, *Spathidium* 162, 219, 368, 414
sphagnicola, *Kreutzophrya* 312, 314
Spinispatha serpens 250
stammeri, *Spathidium* 41, 65, 204
Sterkiella histriomuscorum 416
strenuum, *Gonostomum* 319
Supraspathidium xv, 28, 85, 89, 90, 335, **335**, 337K
Supraspathidium armatum 8, 335, 336, 337, 338K, 344T, 345T, 348, **353**, 360
Supraspathidium canaliculatum 336, 337
Supraspathidium elongatum 335, 337, 338K, 339, 358, **359**, 362
Supraspathidium etoschense 8, 335, 336, 338K, 344T, 345T, 345, **346**, 354, 360
Supraspathidium gigas 335, 336, 337K, 358, **361**

- Supraspathidium latissimum* 89, 336, 337
Supraspathidium lieberkuehnii 336, 337
Supraspathidium multistriata 339
Supraspathidium multistriatum 335, 336, 337, 338K, **339**, 344T, 345T, 345, 346, 348, 356
Supraspathidium polyvacuolatum 90, 336, 337
Supraspathidium teres 335, 336, 338K, **338**, 358, 359, 360
Supraspathidium vermiforme 87, 335, 336, 338K, 339, 345, 348, **357**, 360
symmetricus, *Akidodes* 435

taeniatum, *Cranotheridium* 285, 294, 305
teres, *Lacrymaria* 335, 336, 337, 338
teres, *Spathidium* 338
teres, *Supraspathidium* 335, 336, 338K, **338**, 358, 359, 360
terrenus, *Enchelyodon* 315, 316, 320
terricola, *Apospathidium* 111, 112K, **112**, 113T, 119, 343
terricola, *Dragescozoon* 9
terricola, *Enchelys* 315
terricola, *Epispathidium* 141, 142, 143K, **196**, 224, 228, 372
terricola, *Plesiocaryon* 9
terricola, *Protocyclidium* 103
terricola, *Protospathidium* 215
terricola, *Spathidium* 196, 228
Tetrahymena pyriformis 416
Teuthophrys 206
thecatium, *Enchelydium* 414, 415
tortisticha, *Cultellothrix* 7, 435, 449
tortisticha, *Neocultellothrix* 245, 433, 435, 436K, **449**
Trachelophyllum 143
Trachelophyllum africanum 8
Trachelophyllum pannonicum 8
trichocystiferum, *Colpodidium Colpodidium* 8
trinucleatus, *Condylostomides* 9
tristriata, *Podophrya* 8
truncata, *Lacrymaria* 218, 221

truncatum bimacronucleatum, *Latispathidium* 215, 217T, 219, 220T, 220K, **222**
truncatum truncatum, *Latispathidium* 215, 219, 220K, **221**, 223, 224, 226, 227
truncatum, *Latispathidium* 213, 214, 215K, **218**, 221, 249
truncatum, *Latispathidium truncatum* 215, 219, 220K, **221**, 223, 224, 226, 227
truncatum, *Spathidium* 219, 221
truncatum, *Spathidium Lacrymaria* 219, 221
tuberculata, *Nassula* 14
turgitorum, *Spathidium* 34, 35, 39, 47, 58, 59, 91, 92, 214

Vartospathidium 174, 180, 190
Vartospathidium papilliferum 174
velhoi, *Cultellothrix* 6, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438
velhoi, *Neocultellothrix* 18, 87, 289, 433, 435, 436K, **436**
vermiculare, *Homalozoon* 359, 360
vermicularis, *Litonotus* 359, 360, 361
vermiculus, *Protospathidium* 8, 215
vermiculus, *Spathidium* 138
vermiforme, *Apobryophyllum* 8
vermiforme, *Arcuospathidium* 270
vermiforme, *Protospathidium* **10**, 266, 276
vermiforme, *Spathidium* 87, 336, 357
vermiforme, *Supraspathidium* 87, 335, 336, 338K, 339, 345, 348, **357**, 360
vermiformis, *Enchelyodon* 314, 320
verrucosum, *Centrospathidium* 127, 128K, **128**, 129T, 138
verruculosum, *Centrospathidium* 129, 134, 135
virugense, *Arcuospathidium* 7
virugense, *Arcuospathidium* 7
vlassaki, *Arcuospathidium* 214
Vorticella astyliformis 103

wolffi group, *Spathidium* 33, 34, **85**
wolffi, *Spathidium* 33, **85**, 87T
Wolfskasia loeffleri 9

Table index

Table 3.1	<i>Spathidium elongatum</i> group 38
Table 3.2	<i>Spathidium elongatum</i> , <i>Spathidium dispar</i> , <i>Spathidium apospathidiforme</i> 44
Table 3.3	<i>Spathidium duschli</i> 60
Table 3.4	<i>Spathidium bromelicola</i> 62
Table 3.5	<i>Spathidium bromelicola</i> 63
Table 3.6	<i>Spathidium aciculare</i> , <i>Spathidium etoschense</i> 64
Table 3.7	<i>Spathidium sapophilum</i> , <i>Spathidium sapophilum curvioplites</i> 73
Table 3.8	<i>Spathidium rusticanum</i> 82
Table 3.9	<i>Spathidium wolffi</i> , <i>Spathidium faurefremietii</i> 87
Table 3.10	<i>Spathidium anguilla</i> 92
Table 3.11	<i>Spathidium polynucleatum</i> 104
Table 4.1	<i>Apospathidium terricola</i> , <i>Apospathidium longicaudatum</i> 113
Table 5.1	<i>Centrospathidium verrucosum</i> 129
Table 6.1	<i>Epispathidium regium</i> 150
Table 6.2	<i>Epispathidium securiforme</i> 154
Table 6.3	<i>Epispathidium salsum</i> 167
Table 6.4	<i>Epispathidium papilliferum</i> 192
Table 6.5	<i>Epispathidium papilliferum</i> 194
Table 6.6	<i>Spathidium amphoriforme</i> 200
Table 7.1	<i>Latispathidium lanceoplites</i> , <i>Latispathidium truncatum bimicronucleatum</i> 217
Table 7.2	<i>Latispathidium truncatum bimicronucleatum</i> , <i>Spathidium aciculare</i> , <i>Spathidium etoschense</i> 220
Table 7.3	<i>Latispathidium arboricola</i> 236
Table 7.4	<i>Latispathidium simile</i> 244
Table 7.5	<i>Latispathidium brachyoplites</i> 251
Table 8.1	<i>Schmidingerophrya macrothrix</i> , <i>Schmidingerophrya bisticha</i> 268
Table 8.2	<i>Schmidingerophrya macrothrix</i> 272
Table 9.1	<i>Semibryophyllum cultellum</i> , <i>Semibryophyllum palustre</i> 282
Table 9.2	<i>Semibryophyllum foliosum</i> 283
Table 10.1	<i>Semispathidium enchelyodontides</i> , <i>Semispathidium armatum</i> , <i>Semispathidium lagyniforme</i> 313
Table 11.1	<i>Supraspathidium etoschense</i> , <i>Supraspathidium armatum</i> , <i>Supraspathidium multistriatum</i> 344
Table 12.1	<i>Pharyngospathidium longichilum amphoriforme</i> 370
Table 12.2	<i>Pharyngospathidium longichilum longichilum</i> , <i>Pharyngospathidium longichilum amphoriforme</i> , <i>Pharyngospathidium pseudobavariense</i> 371
Table 12.3	<i>Neospathidium longinucleatum</i> 413
Table 12.4	<i>Neospathidium africanum</i> , <i>Neospathidium brachystichos</i> 427

