

DAPHNIA

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INTRODUCTION:

One of the most rewarding things we can find as amateur microscopists is observing pond life, mainly after the rainy season because ponds are full of life.

Among all those creatures in ponds, daphnia are one that is found almost every time, although this organism is not exactly microscopic because they can be seen with bare eyes swimming in the containers we filled with pond water. However, the fine details of this creature are only appreciated under the lenses of the microscope, see below.

DEVELOPMENT:

Of one of the multiple samples I have gotten during the time of observation, I have a daphnia that I was observing alive under the microscope within a drop of water and that unfortunately it died upon the slide. After that I sealed it with some clear nail enamel and I keep it in my collection.

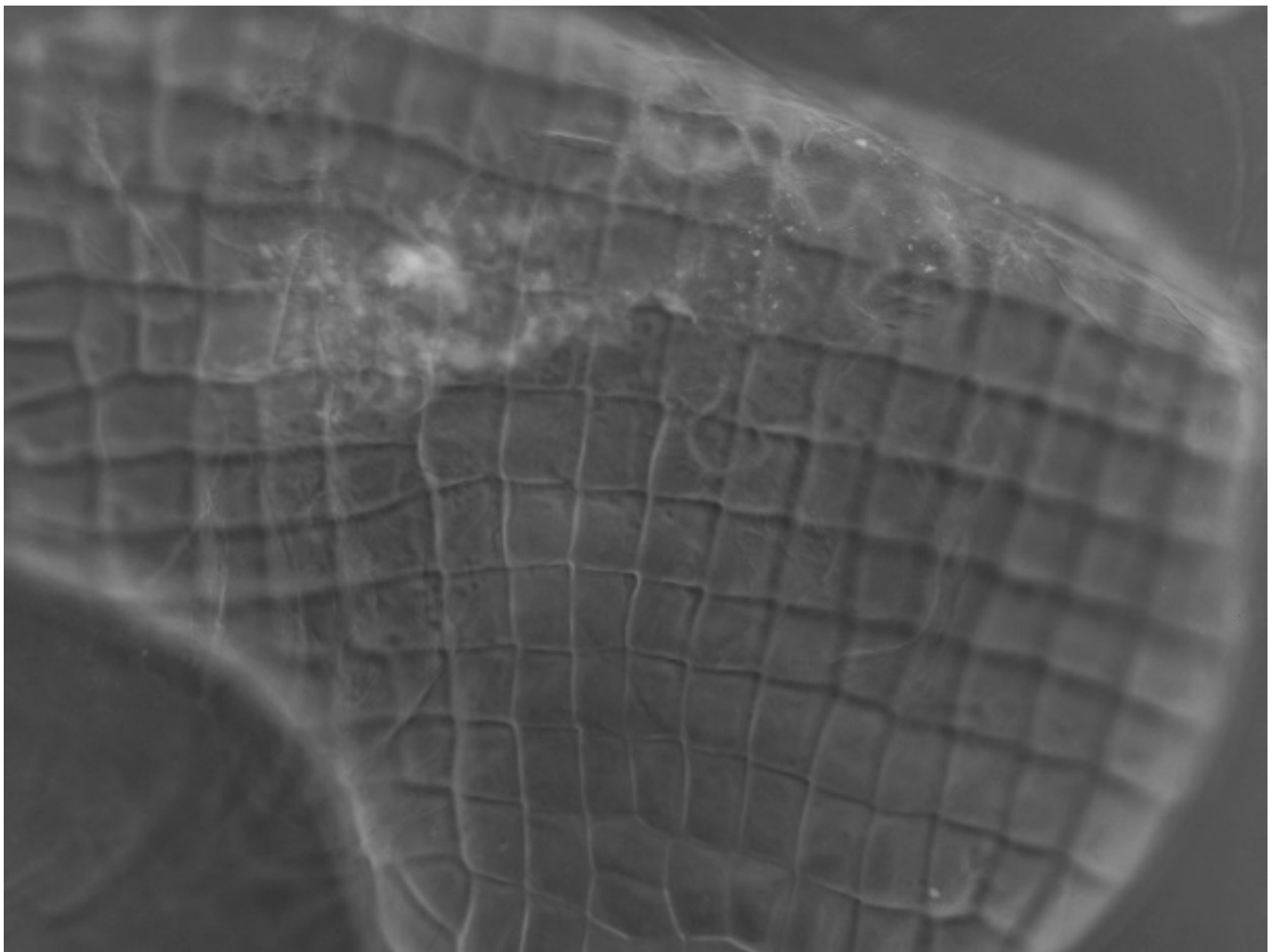
Note: I say unfortunately because I do not like to kill living beings, at that time I could not return that individual to the container. I should make clear that the spiders, mosquitoes and flies in my collection I found them already dead while looking on the walls or plants for samples to observe.

I make this clear because sometimes we encourage young people to love microscopy, but microscopy is a hobby of values and we should never encourage our kids to dispose of living beings unmercifully.

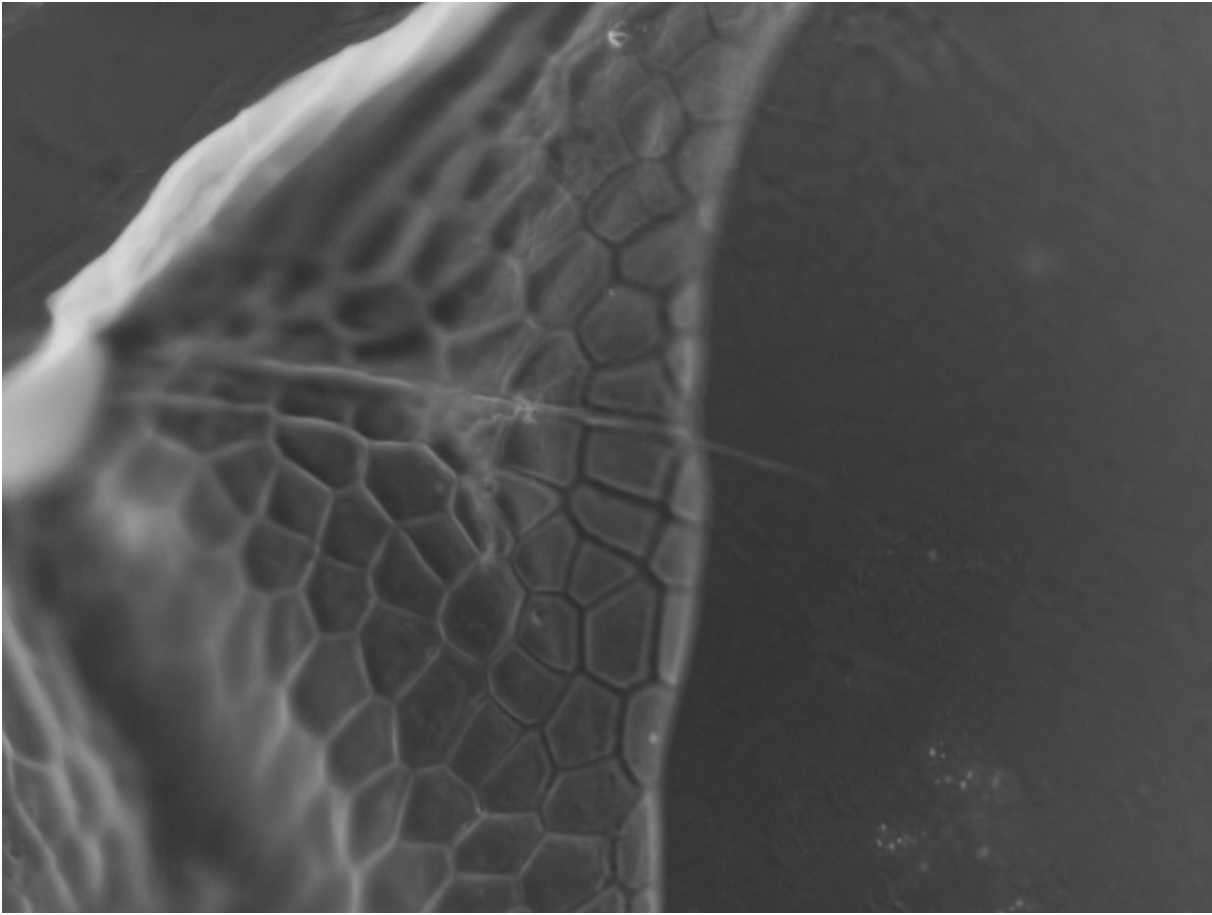
RESULTS:



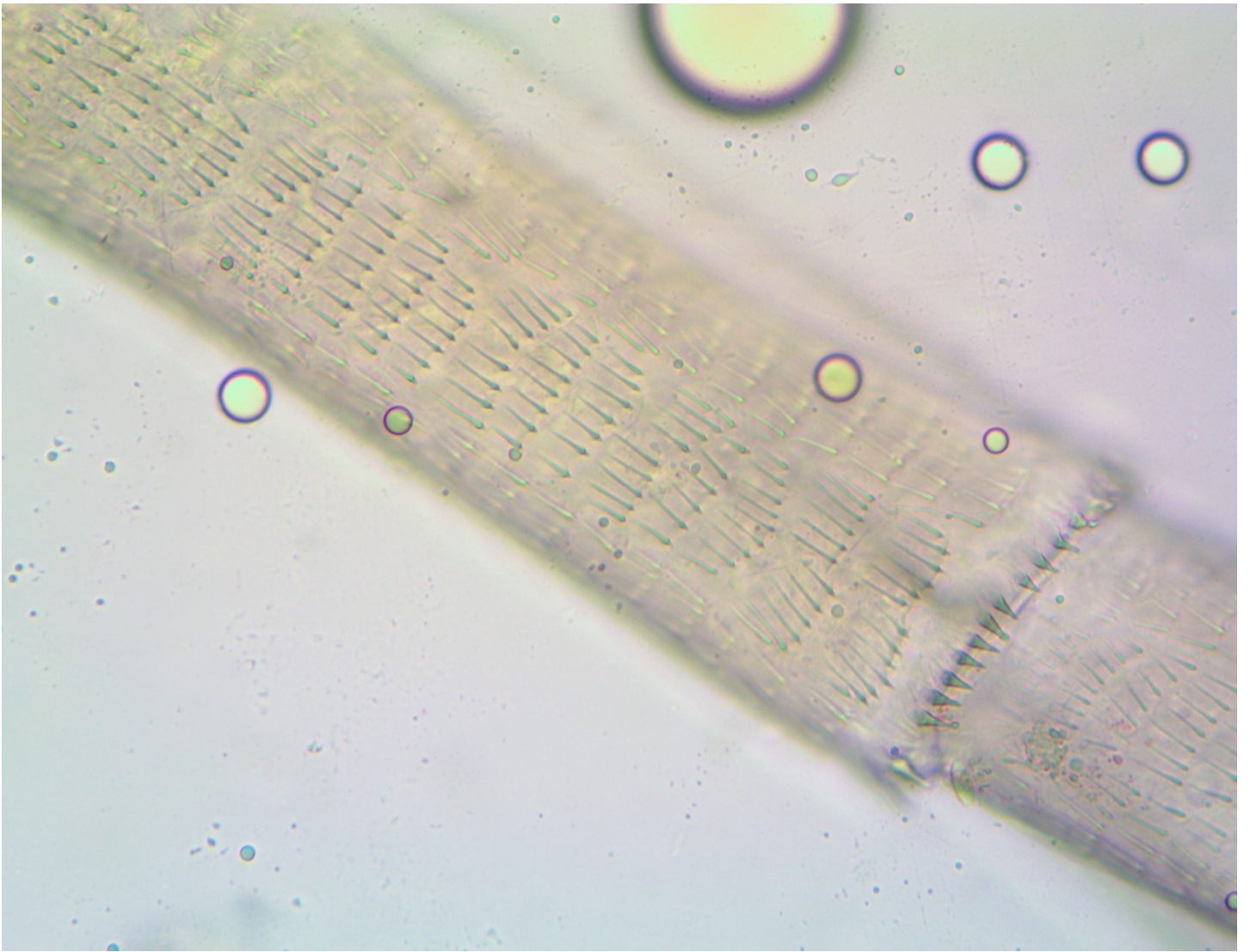
Daphnia, Rheinberg illumination with purple stop 4x



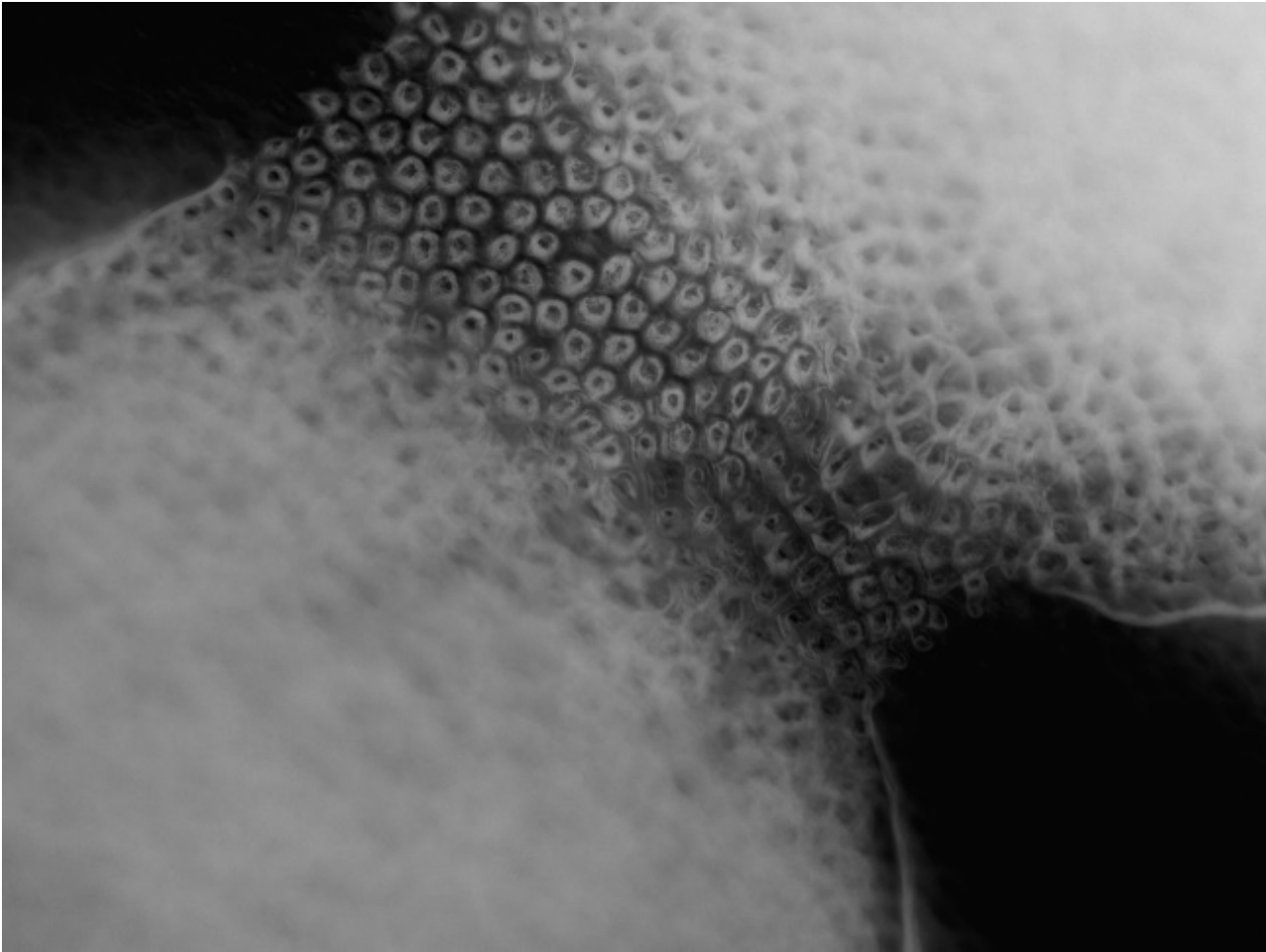
Cells of daphnia's shell, brightfield, gray scale, negative 40x



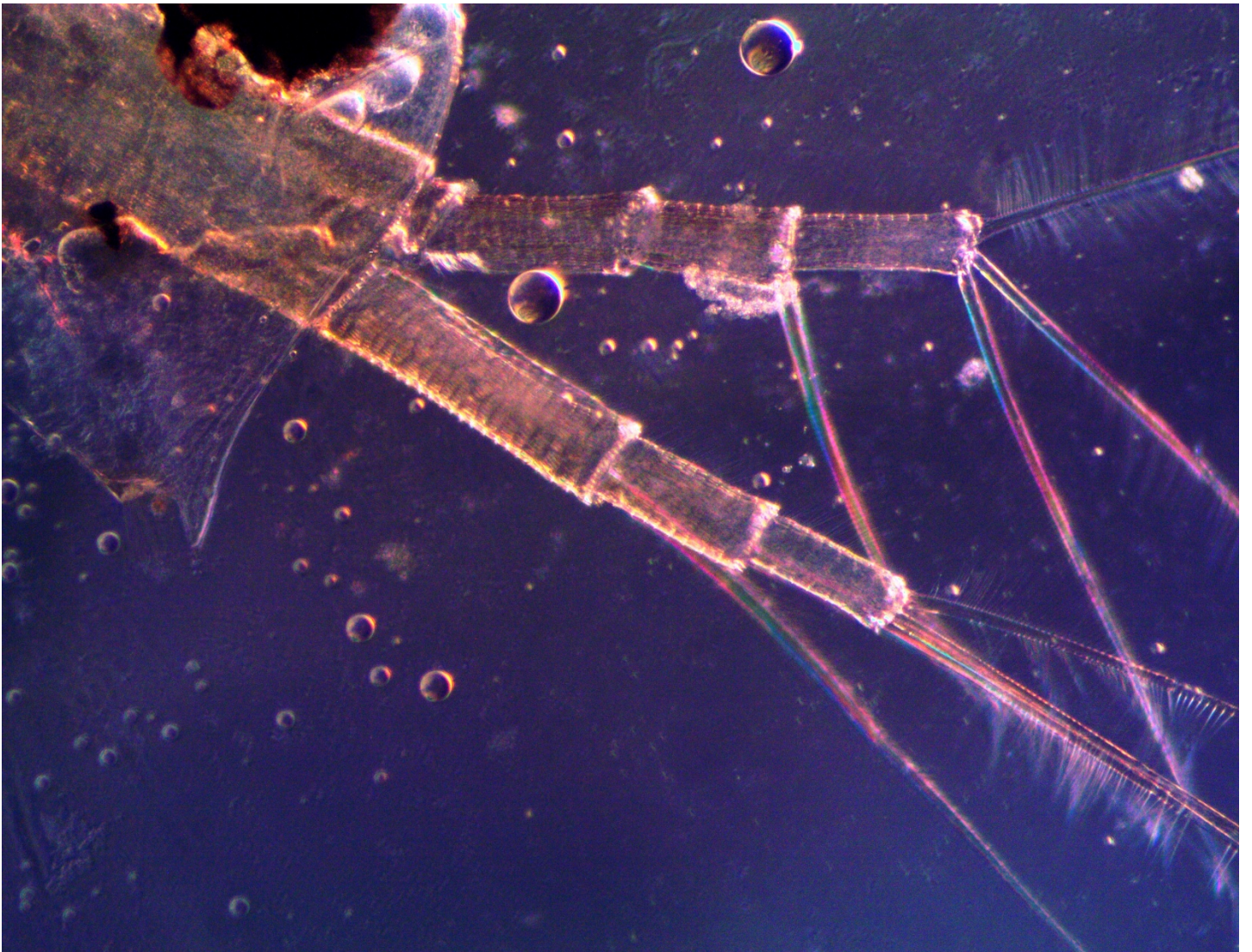
Cells of daphnia's shell, brightfield, gray scale, negative 40x



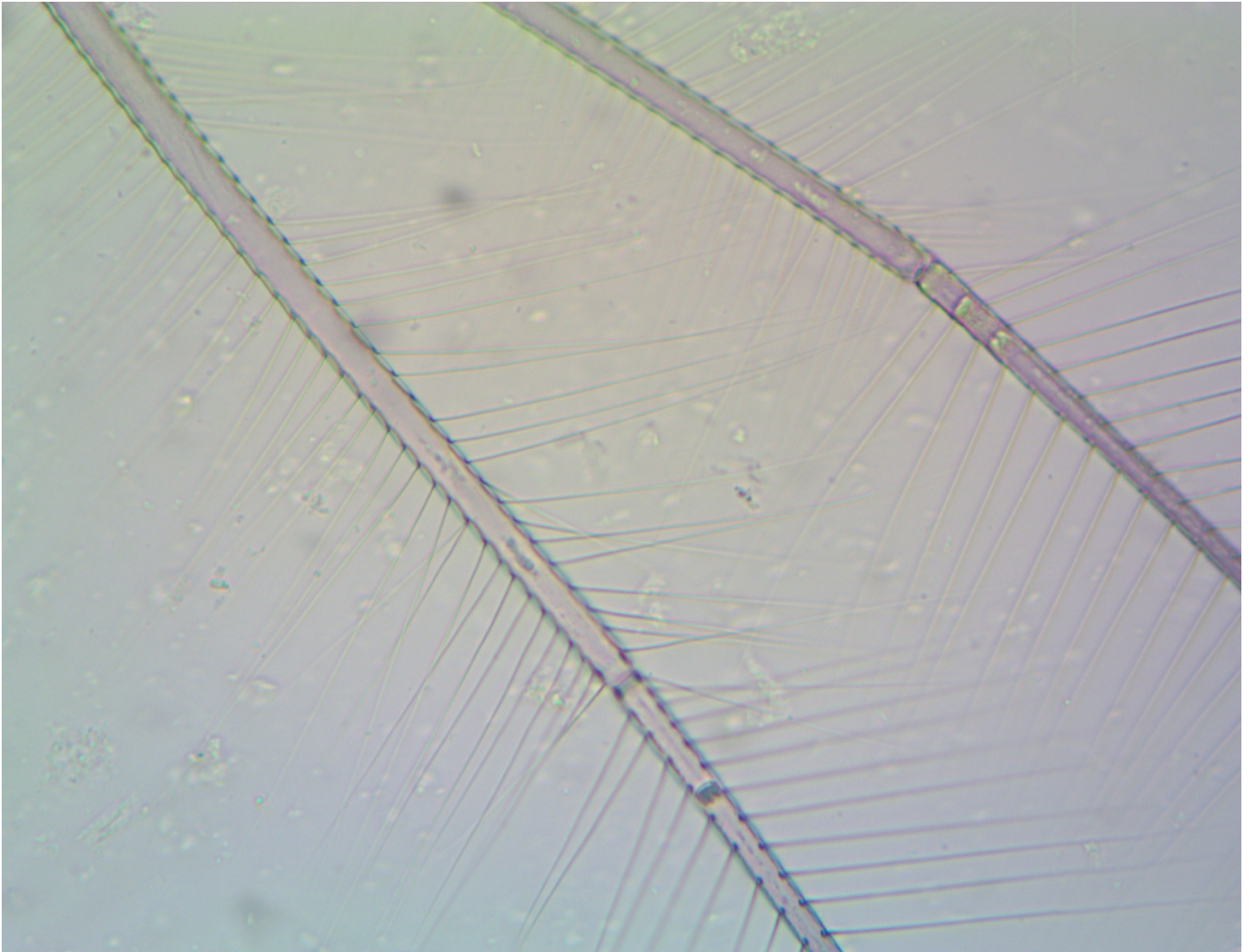
Daphnia limb, brightfield 40x



Cells of daphnia's egg pouch brightfield, gray scale 40x



Daphnia legs, darkfield 10x



Daphnia, part of the limbs, brightfield 40x

CONCLUSION:

Daphnia are beautiful creatures that we should not miss to observe under the microscope whenever we have the chance.

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(Above in anti-spam format. Copy string to email software, remove spaces and manually insert the capitalised characters.)

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