

Adoncholaimus thalassophygas (De Man, 1876)
(Fig. 92)

Description. A smaller species; body length 1.7–2.2 mm. Maximum diameter 48–68 μm (a = 31–37). Arrangement of cephalic papillae and buccal teeth as in *A. fuscus*. Amphids 0.3 times c.d. wide. Excretory pore 1.4–1.8 buccal cavity lengths from anterior. Male tail conical for its proximal two-fifths, then cylindrical; female tail more evenly tapered, 3 a.b.d. in both sexes.

Spicules slender, 82–94 μm (3 a.b.d.). Paired rounded ventral swellings at base of conical portion of male tail. Six pairs of circumcloacal setae subventrally anterior to cloaca, posterior two pairs close together.

Gubernaculum absent.

Demanian system opens by a pair of single lateral pores 4 a.b.d. preanal. Vulva at 56–59% of body length.

Distribution. Whitstable; Blythe estuary; Skippers Island, Essex; Exe estuary; Loch Etive, Scotland. Typical of low salinity intertidal mud.

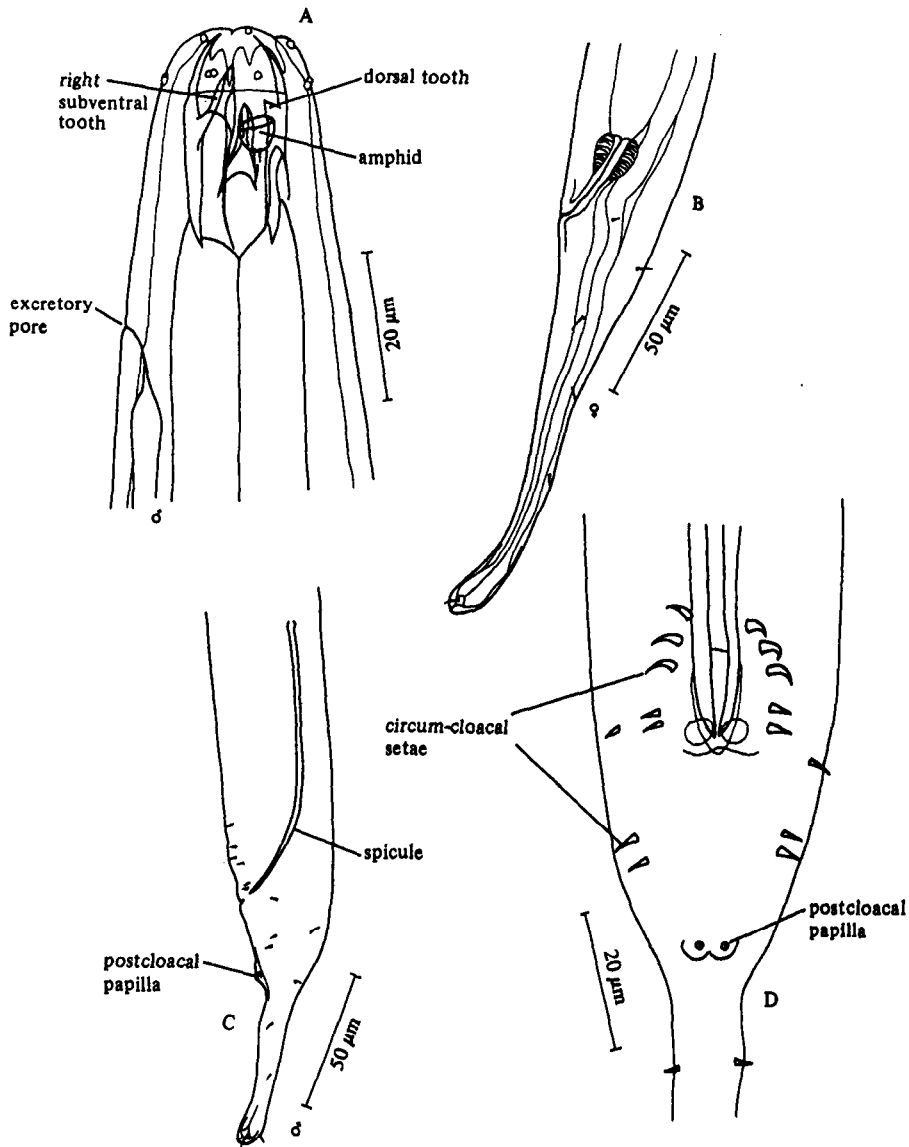


Fig. 92. *Adoncholaimus thalassophygus*. A, Male head; B, Female tail; C, Male tail; D, Ventral view of cloacal region. Original.