

Chromadorella filiformis (Bastian, 1865)

(Fig. 46)

Description. Body length 1.2–1.4 mm: a = 43–45 (male), 29–30 (female). Cuticle punctated with heterogeneous ornamentation and lateral differentiation consisting of two rows of dots beginning more or less at the anterior end of the oesophagus and extending three-quarters of the way down the tail: immediately posterior to the oesophagus the lateral dots become smaller (c.f. Fig. 46B, C); mid-body ornamentation medial to lateral dots has a battlement-like structure (Fig. 46C), the direction of which changes about mid-body (Fig. 46D). Cephalic setae 8 μm (0.5 h.d.). Cervical setae present. Amphids about 9 μm wide, indistinct, situated between cephalic setae. Previous descriptions indicate the presence of a pigment spot situated about 1.5 h.d. from the anterior end: these structures often fade on preservation and were not detected in the specimens described here. Buccal cavity conical with large anteriorly directed dorsal tooth and two dorsally directed subventral teeth. Elongated posterior oesophageal bulb appearing almost double (Fig. 46E). Tail 5.5 a.b.d. in male, conical with asymmetrical spinneret.

Spicules 37 μm (1.2 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, strongly arcuate. Gubernaculum 25 μm with bifurcate distal tip (Fig. 46H). Five cup-shaped precloacal supplements, anteriormost about 65 μm in front of cloaca.

Distribution. Falmouth, South West England; Isles of Scilly; Newton Ferrers, River Yealm, Devon (intertidal seaweeds).

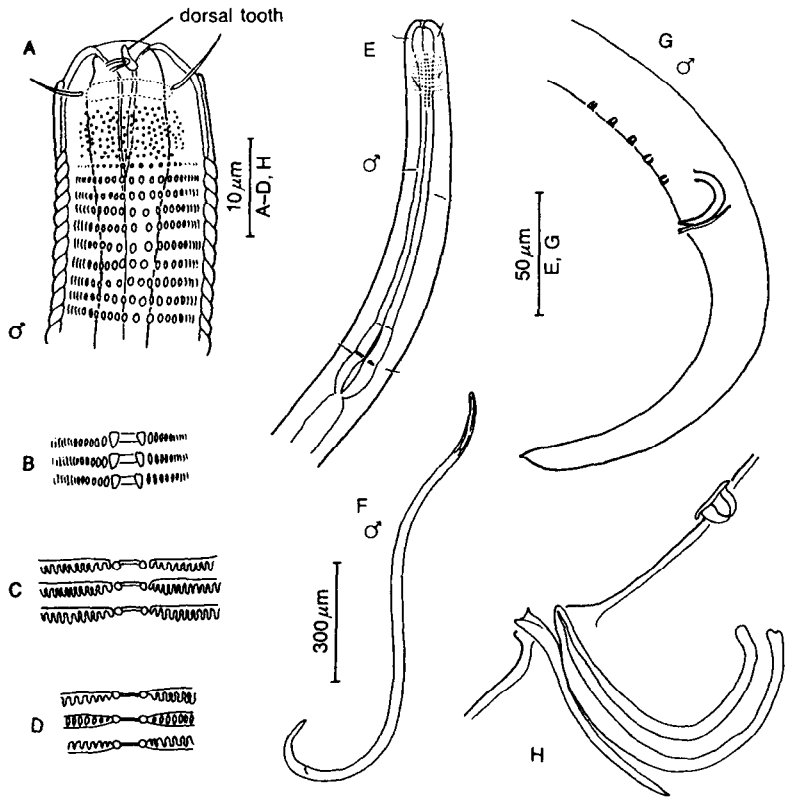


Fig. 46. *Chromadorella filiformis*. A, Male head; B, C, D, Lateral cuticle at base of oesophagus, mid-body and where battlements change direction respectively; E, Anterior region of male; F, Entire male; G, Posterior region of male; H, Cloacal region of male. Original.