

*Chromadorita tenuis* (Schneider, 1906)

(Fig. 64)

**Description.** Body length 1.0–1.1 mm. Maximum diameter 35–43  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 23$ –33). Lateral punctations of the cuticle enlarged but not arranged in longitudinal rows. Lateral dots rounded in head region but become pear-shaped a short distance posterior to the head (Fig. 64A); about half way down the oesophagus they again become rounded and are connected by a fine basket-work of lines which are just resolvable under the light microscope (Fig. 64E). Just posterior to the base of the oesophagus the lateral dots become smaller and more irregular in shape and no basket-work can be detected (Fig. 64F). This pattern extends down most of the body length until in the anal region the dots become larger and rounded (Fig. 64G), this pattern persisting down the length of the tail. Six small conical labial papillae. Four cephalic setae 6–7  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.5 h.d.). Body setae in four files situated on the edges of the lateral cuticular differentiation. Buccal cavity with a hollow slender dorsal tooth opposed by two much smaller subventral teeth. Amphids 6–7  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.5 h.d.) wide, transverse loop-shaped between bases of cephalic setae. Oesophagus swollen anteriorly to accommodate dorsal tooth; posterior bulb barrel-shaped with plasmatic interruptions (Fig. 64D). Tail 3.1–4.2 a.b.d., tapering throughout; spinneret unstriated.

Spicules 41–42  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.3 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, arcuate, slightly cephalate proximally with a delicate ventral ala. Gubernaculum 28–31  $\mu\text{m}$ . 11–12 cup-shaped precloacal supplements (Fig. 64C). Two median precloacal and one postcloacal setae (Fig. 64B).

*Distribution.* Exe estuary, South West England (intertidal sand).

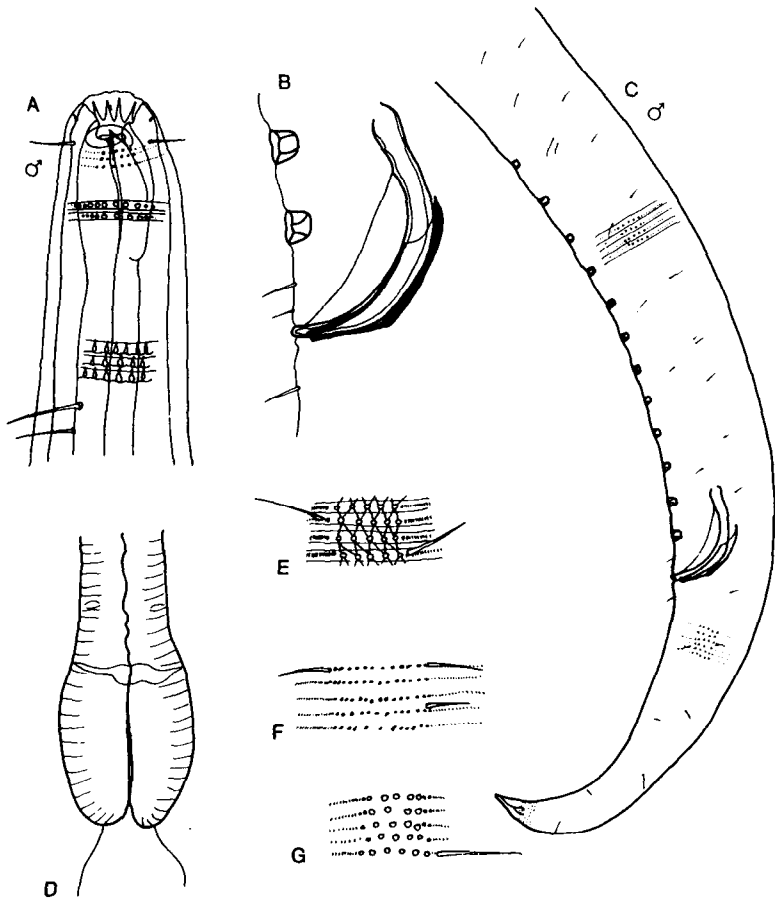


Fig. 64. *Chromadorita tenuis*. A, Male head; B, Cloacal region; C, Posterior end of male; D, Oesophageal bulb; E-G, lateral cuticle pattern at level of oesophageal bulb (E), mid-body (F), cloaca (G). Original.