

Desmodora (Pseudochromadora) pontica Filpjev, 1922
(Fig. 145)

Description. Body length 1.8–2.2 mm; often with a few suctorian protists attached. Maximum diameter 56–76 μm ($a = 26\text{--}33$). Cuticle transversely striated without additional ornamentation. Cephalic capsule in two sections, an anterior truncated cone and a broader basal section separated by a prominent groove. Six conical 2.5 μm labial papillae. Six short 3 μm and four longer 7–8 μm (0.3 h.d.) cephalic setae, all on the anterior section of the cephalic capsule. A pair of short setae behind each amphid on the posterior section of the cephalic capsule. Eight files of short setae down the body length. Amphids 12–13 μm (0.4 c.d.) wide, a single open loop occupying most of the length of the posterior section of the cephalic capsule. Anterior portion of buccal cavity with a circle of small pointed cuticularisations and more posteriorly a prominent dorsal and two smaller subventral teeth. Oesophagus with posterior bulb about 55 μm long and 33 μm wide. Tail 2.5–3.6 a.b.d., conical with unstriated terminal portion.

Spicules 60–65 μm (1.3–1.4 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, arcuate, squarely cephalate proximally with narrow ventral ala. Gubernaculum a pair of 22–23 μm crescentic structures. Cuticle thickened ventrally for some distance preloacally, pierced by about 12 fine tubular supplements.

Vulva at 55–59% body length.

Distribution. Northumberland coast, North East England (sublittoral fine sand and mud); Exe estuary, South West England (intertidal sand).

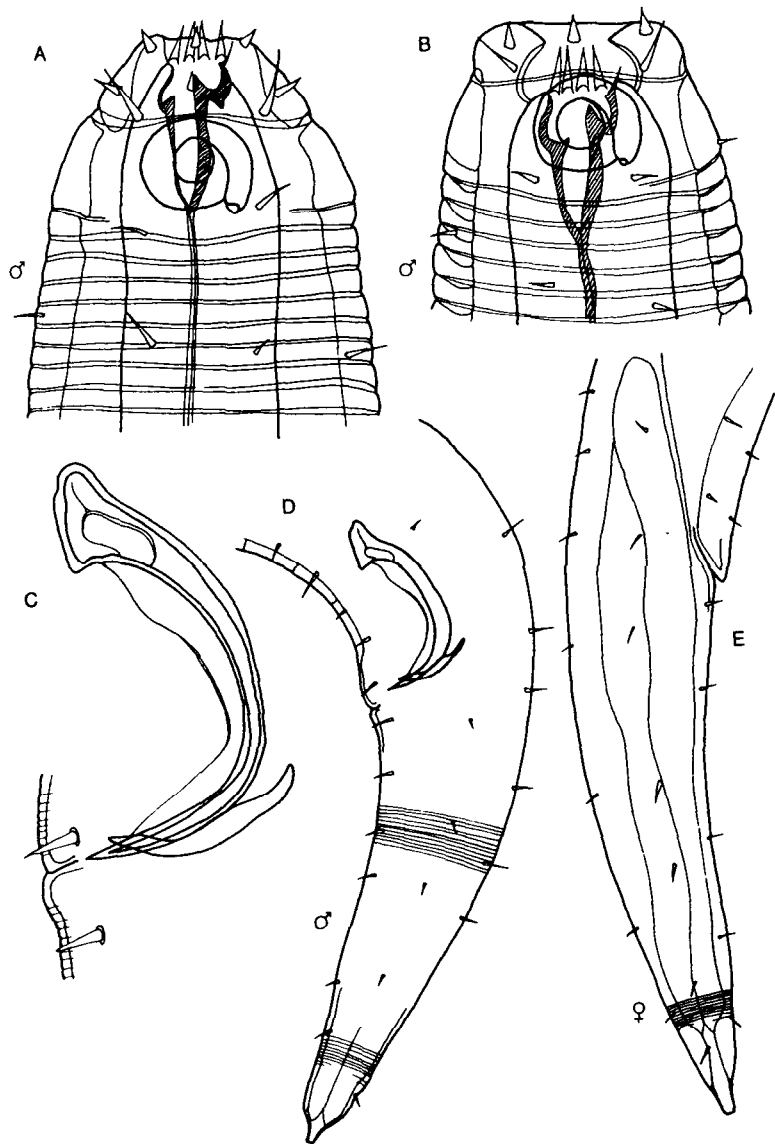


Fig. 145. *Desmodora (Pseudochromadora) pontica*. A-B, Male heads; C, Spicules and gubernaculum; D, Male tail; E, Female tail. Original.