

Desmoscolex falcatus Lorenzen, 1972

(Fig. 225)

Description (from Lorenzen, 1972d). Body length 0.3–0.4 mm. Somatic setal formula:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| subdorsal (both sexes) | 1 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 11 | 13 | 16 | 17 |
| subventral (male) | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 15 |
| subventral (female) | | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 15 |

The subventral setae on desmen 10 and 12 in the female are longer than the others, and are used to clasp a string (capsule) of one to four eggs. The subdorsal setae on desmen 13 and 17 in both sexes are displaced laterally and are longer than the others. Cephalic setae 8–10 μm .

Spicules 37–43 μm , slender, slightly curved.

Distribution. Tamar estuary, South West England (intertidal mud).

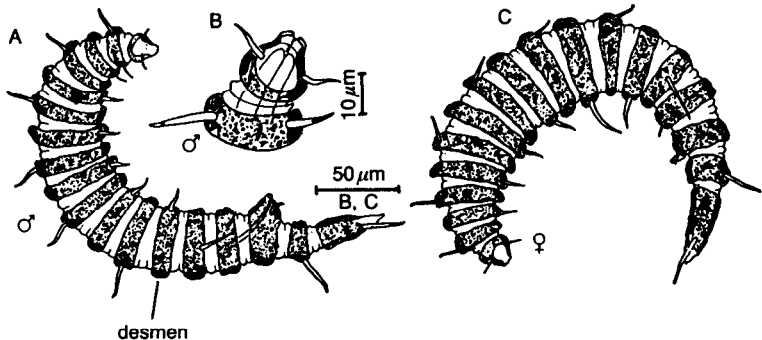


Fig. 225. *Desmoscolex falcatus*. A, Entire male; B, Male head; C, Entire female.
From Lorenzen (1972d).