

Graphonema northumbriae Warwick and Coles, 1975
(Fig. 60)

Description. Body length 1.7–1.8 mm. Maximum diameter 40–50 μm . Cuticle at anterior end with hexagonal blocks which break up into fine punctations on the head (Fig. 60A). From about the middle of the oesophageal region, the pattern changes to rows of rounded dots alternating with rows of characteristic V-shaped markings (Fig. 60C), which point anteriorly on the anterior half of the body and are reversed in the posterior half. Lateral plates deeper in the cuticle are poorly developed. Anterior circle of six cephalic setae 2–4 μm , four longer posterior setae 6 μm . Body setae in four longitudinal rows in oesophageal region, more scattered on remainder of body. Crescentic amphids at level of cephalic setae. Buccal cavity with prominent, hollow, anteriorly directed dorsal tooth. Laterally and ventrally there are cuticular ridges and flanges and two small subventral teeth just posterior and opposite the dorsal tooth. Additionally, some even smaller teeth are just visible in some specimens, but these do not form denticular rows as in *Euchromadora* species. Oesophagus enlarged towards posterior end but without a definite bulb. Tail 4.8 a.b.d., curved, gradually tapered.

Spicules equal 60–74 μm , broad, arcuate, non-alate. Paired telamons, L-shaped, 30–33 μm without obvious teeth or swellings on the distal arm. Gubernaculum about the same length as the telamons. Median preloacal seta.

Distribution. Newton-on-Sea, Northumberland, North East England (littoral seaweeds); Tyne and Wear coast, North East England (sublittoral mud).

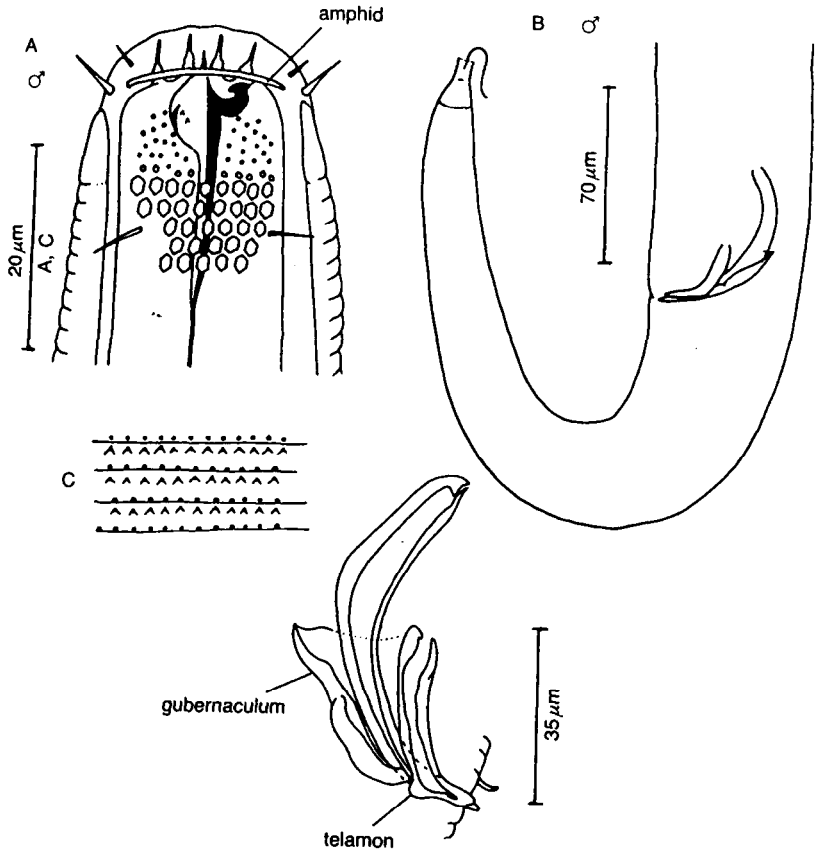


Fig. 60. *Graphonema northumbriae*. A, Male head; B, Male tail; C, Cuticular pattern near mid-body; D, Spicules and gubernaculum. From Warwick and Coles (1975).