

Leptolaimus papilliger De Man, 1876
(Fig. 201)

Description. Body length 0.5–0.6 mm. Maximum diameter: males 15–18 μm ($a = 28\text{--}37$); females 29–33 μm ($a = 17\text{--}22$). Cuticle with lateral longitudinal unstriated band and four sublateral files of short setae down body length. Four minute 1 μm papilliform sensilla. Amphids 4 μm (0.6 c.d.) wide in male, 3 μm (0.4 c.d.) in females, about 1.4 h.d. posterior. Oesophagus with a thick cuticular lining throughout with three small swellings along its length where the lining is interrupted (Fig. 201A) and a small terminal bulb. Tail 4.0 a.b.d., conico-cylindrical with posterior 20–25% cylindrical.

Spicules 15–19 μm (1.3 a.b.d.) as curve, cephalate proximally. Gubernaculum with curved anteriorly pointing apophysis. Four 9–10 μm long cuticularised tubular precloacal supplements, cephalate proximally and notched distally, and more anteriorly 14–25 simple cup-shaped supplements extending just anterior to base of oesophagus (Fig. 201A).

Vulva at 50% of body length.

Distribution. Exe estuary, South West England; Tamar estuary, South West England (intertidal mud in extremely low salinity regions); Strangford Lough, North East Ireland (intertidal sand).

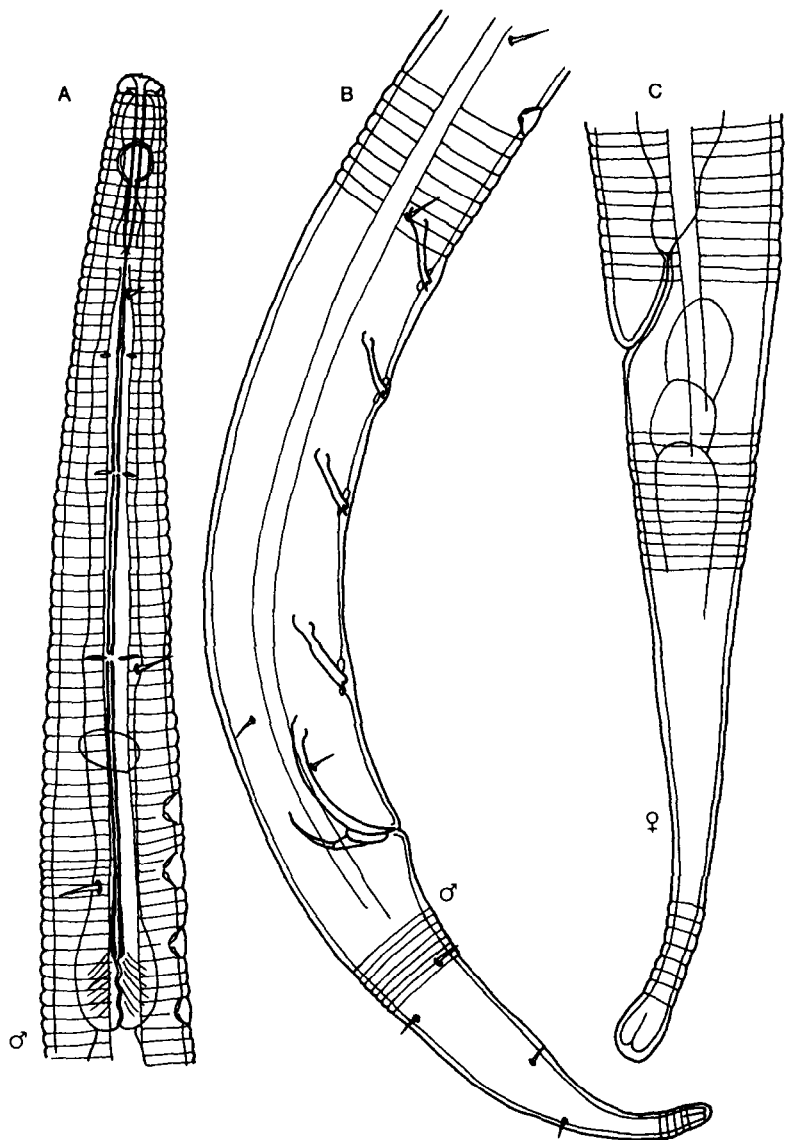


Fig. 201. *Leptolaimus papilliger*. A, Anterior end of male; B, Male tail; C, Female tail. Original.