

Enoplolaimus caput medusæ n. sp.

Pl. XIV, fig. 3; Pl. XV, fig. 7, Pl. XVI, figs. 1, 2.

Little Belt; off Middelfart, c. 30 m, clean sand.

— off Snoghøj, c. 5 m.

— off Lyngs Odde, c. 30 m.

Several specimens were taken. The length of the female makes c. 6.3 mm; that of the male c. 6 mm. The shape is rather lengthened and slender and the body is of almost uniform width during the whole length. There is no expansion in the front end and the head is rounded and nearly conical in shape. The lips are rather short, hyaline and rounded. The tail is rather long and conical (Pl. XVI, fig. 2).

The cuticle is very delicately striated as seems to be the rule in all *Enoplolaimi*.

The cephalic bristles are present in such a number and dimensions that I have not seen the like in any other Nematode, a feature which renders to the animal a characteristic and peculiar aspect (Pl. XVI, fig. 1). On the lips is found the usual crown of rather short or mediumsized bristles and behind these is seen another crown of larger and stouter setæ corresponding to what is usual in the genus *Enoplolaimus*. A third crown is found at the level of the proximal end of the jaws and these bristles, four in all, are exceedingly long and slender and remind one of tentacles in An-

nelids. Behind these, at the level of the base of the buccal cavity is a ring of four bristles of about the same length but nearly twice as thick, and also tentacle like; each of these bristles shows a circular field, in which it is fixed and a central string (nerve?) can be followed almost in their whole length. In my specimens the long bristles are, as said, like tentacles, an impression which is strengthened by the feature that they are bent irregularly in many directions as if they were flexible in the living animal. Each of the large bristles in the hindmost ring is accompanied by a slender, filiform bristle, that attains hardly half the length of the large. Caudad for the hindmost ring of large, tentacle-like setæ is found a ring, consisting of six groups of bristles; each group consists of three bristles of about half the length of the large. Between the described two last crowns are seen several groups of smaller bristles of different length, the arrangement of which is very difficult to ascertain. Owing to this rich supply of bristles the whole front-end of the body attains an aspect which justifies the name of *caput medusæ*.

As usual in this genus the buccal cavity is spacious; the jaws are in the species in question mediumsized; their median tooth is rather small.

The œsophagus is rather long and of about uniform width; only in the front end it is somewhat expanded. The nerve-ring is indistinct or rather invisible as in most of these forms. No ventral gland was seen.

Vulva is found behind the middle. The female organs are symmetrical and the ovaries reflexed. Vaginal glands are not seen. The spicules are short and thin; in their proximal end is seen a dilatation (Pl. XIV, fig. 3). An accessory piece, rod-like and slender, is present. The supplementary organ is only small, the chitinous duct is found c. 176 μ in front of the ano-genital aperture, a distance not attaining half the length of the tail.

Female.

Length: 6,₃ mm.

α = 56.

β = 4,₃.

γ = 17,₀.

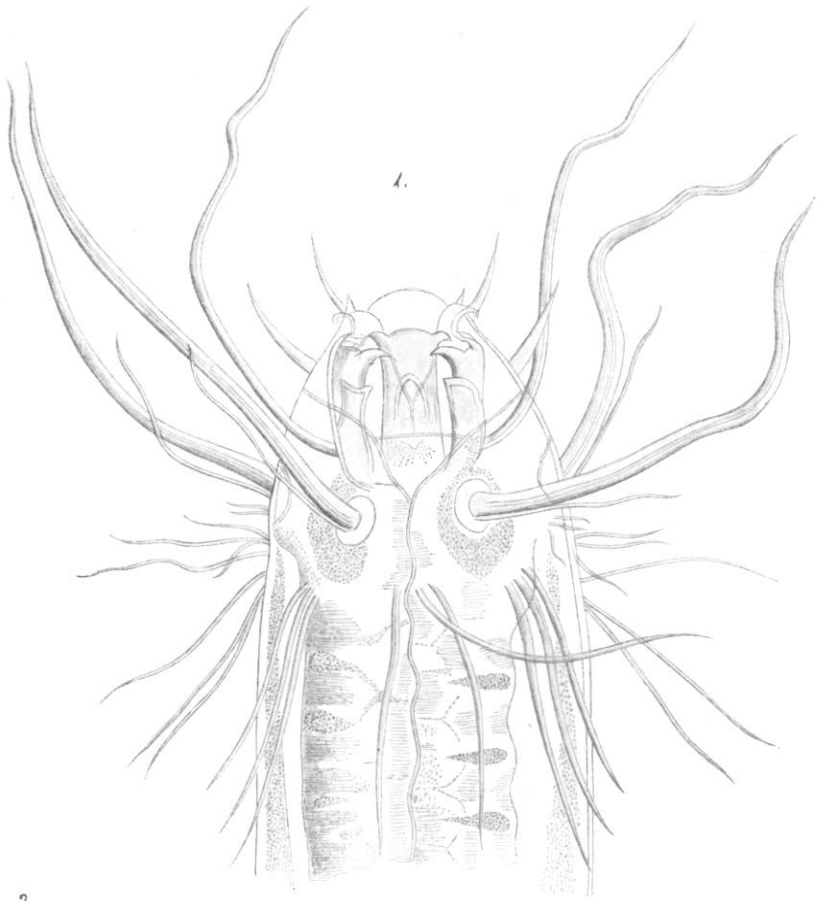
Male.

6,₁ mm.

α = 69.

β = 5,₁.

γ = 18,₉.



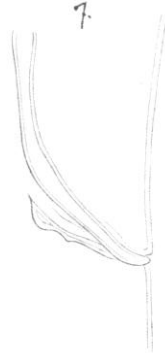
2.



3.



7.



1. *Enoplolaimus caput medusæ* n. sp. Anterior end. Apochr. 2 mm Comp. Oc. 4.
2. *Enoplolaimus caput medusæ* n. sp. Posterior end of the female. Obj. C. Winkel's drawing eyepiece.
3. *Enoplolaimus caput medusæ*. Posterior end of the male. Apochr. 8 mm Comp. Oc. 4.
7. *Enoplolaimus caput medusæ*. Spicular apparatus. Apochr. 2 mm Comp. Oc. 4.