

Prochromadorella ditlevseni (De Man, 1922)

(Fig. 53)

Description. Body length 0.9–1.1 mm. Maximum diameter 22–27 μm ($a = 41\text{--}43$). Cuticle in anterior region (about first quarter of oesophagus length) marked with transverse rows of fine dots; posterior to this the dots become more elongate and rod-like; lateral differentiation lacking. Six small conical labial papillae. Four cephalic setae 5 μm (0.5 h.d.). Buccal cavity with three small equal solid teeth. Amphids not visible in British specimens studied here but have been observed as transverse slits between the cephalic setae in material from German coastal areas. Oesophageal bulb indistinct, merging almost imperceptibly with rest of oesophagus (Fig. 53B). Tail 5.2–5.5 a.b.d. in males, conico-cylindrical; spinneret not punctated.

Spicules 24–26 μm (1.1–1.4 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, bent rather rectangularly with a slight ventral swelling proximally. Gubernaculum 16–17 μm . Five cup-shaped precloacal supplements more or less equally spaced.

Distribution. Exe estuary, South West England; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland; Firth of Forth, East Scotland (intertidal sand).

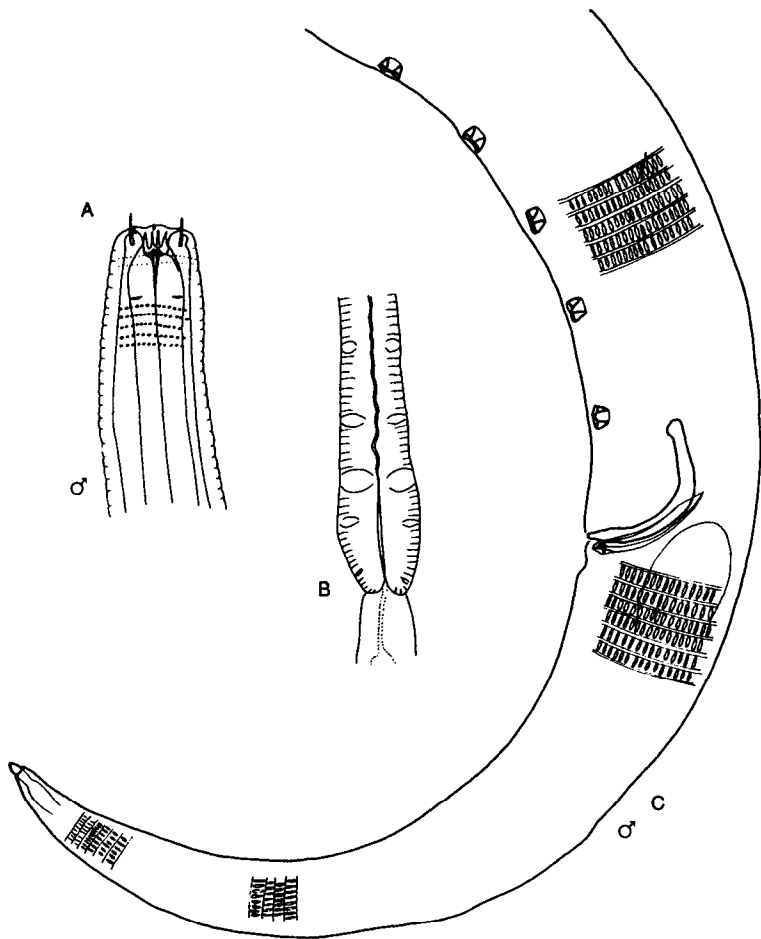


Fig. 53. *Prochromadorella ditlevseni*. A, Male head; B, Base of oesophagus; C, Male tail. Original.