

THORACOSTOMA (PSEUDOCELLA) POLYCHAITES n.sp.

(Fig. 3a-c.)

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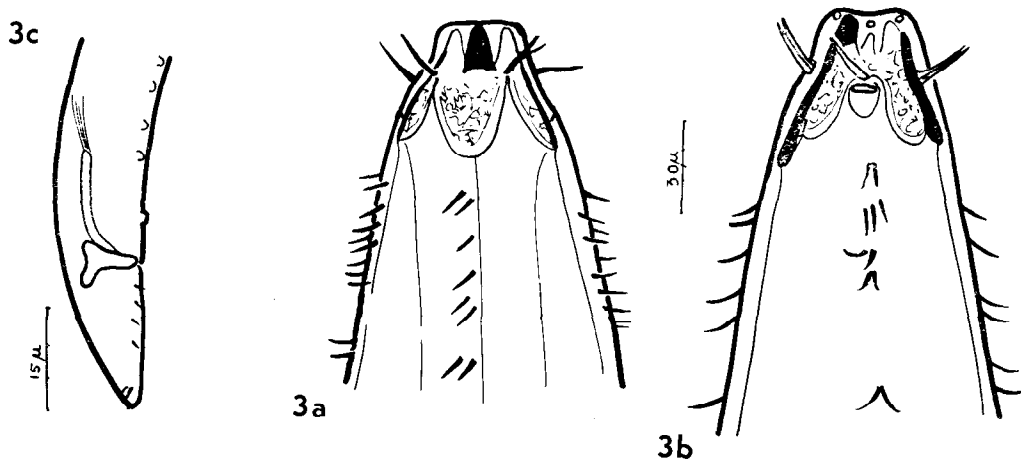
♀ (1x) L. 7.8 mm.; $\alpha = 52$; $\beta = 4.9$; $\gamma = 52$; V = 61%.

♂ (1x) L. 7.7 mm.; $\alpha = 45$; $\beta = 4.8$; $\gamma = 43$.

The head is markedly constricted just anterior to the origin of the cephalic setae. The labial papillae are very distinct, but though large in area they hardly project through the cuticle. The cephalic setae are long and stout, all equal in size, and their length is just under half the cephalic breadth. The amphid openings lie close behind the lateral setae; they are slit-like, their width 12% and 20%, in female and male respectively, of the corresponding head width. The nuchal setae are only a little shorter than the head setae, and are arranged in four rows, a dorsal, a ventral, and two lateral, each row with eight to twelve setae arising in pairs, singly or in threes. No sexual dimorphism is apparent in their distribution. The helmet is six-lobed, the sublateral lobes much more widely separated from one another than the other lobes. The lower part of the capsule is irregularly loculate, but the posterior border is entire, not associated with cuticular granules. The structure of the buccal cavity is hard to make out. The ventral tooth-like process of Filipjev, or "pièce claviforme" of de Man, is strongly developed. No oesophageal tooth was seen. No lens or definite pigment mass was seen but a noticeable amount of pigment is associated with the anterior end of the oesophagus.

The tail is conical in both sexes, ending in a rounded tip. The tail length in the female is 1.5, and in the male 2.0, anal breadths. The spicule is 150μ long, 1.4 anal breadths. The gubernaculum is 70μ long, and has the rounded posterior processes characteristic of the subgenus. There is a median preanal organ 60μ in front of the anus, and about ten pairs of preanal papillae. Caudal setae are few, arranged as in Fig. 3c.

The species is close to *T. panamaense* Allgen 1947 as redescribed (from female only) by Wieser (1953, 31). It differs in having the nuchal setae more numerous and further from the head, and in a smaller amphid. Wieser states that there are six rows of nuchal setae (though this is not apparent from his figure), but only four are present in the Antarctic species. As there are only two small specimens, no en face view has been undertaken.



3. *T. (Pseudocella) polychaites*. a, ventral, and b, lateral, views of head, to same scale; c, tail of male.