

Spirinia parasitifera (Bastian, 1865)
(Fig. 148)

Description. Body length 2.3–2.9 mm. Maximum diameter 61–88 μm ($a = 30\text{--}47$). Six anterior cephalic sensilla papilliform. Four 5–6 μm (0.3–0.4 h.d.) cephalic setae. Short scattered somatic setae. Amphids a single loop, 6–7 μm (0.4 c.d.) wide. Buccal cavity narrow, with a small dorsal tooth and slightly posteriorly two minute subventral teeth. Oesophagus short, about 6% of total body length with a well-developed round posterior bulb, 33–43 μm long and 31–32 μm wide, with plasmatic interruptions in the middle. Tail 2.9–3.1 a.b.d., conical with an unstriated tip.

Spicules about 60 μm (1.1 a.b.d.), conspicuously roundly cephalate proximally with a terminal internal cuticularised knob (Fig. 148C). Gubernaculum about 30 μm , arcuate.

Vulva at 46–49% of body length.

Distribution. A common species found at numerous localities throughout the British Isles, typically from intertidal and subtidal mud and muddy-sand.

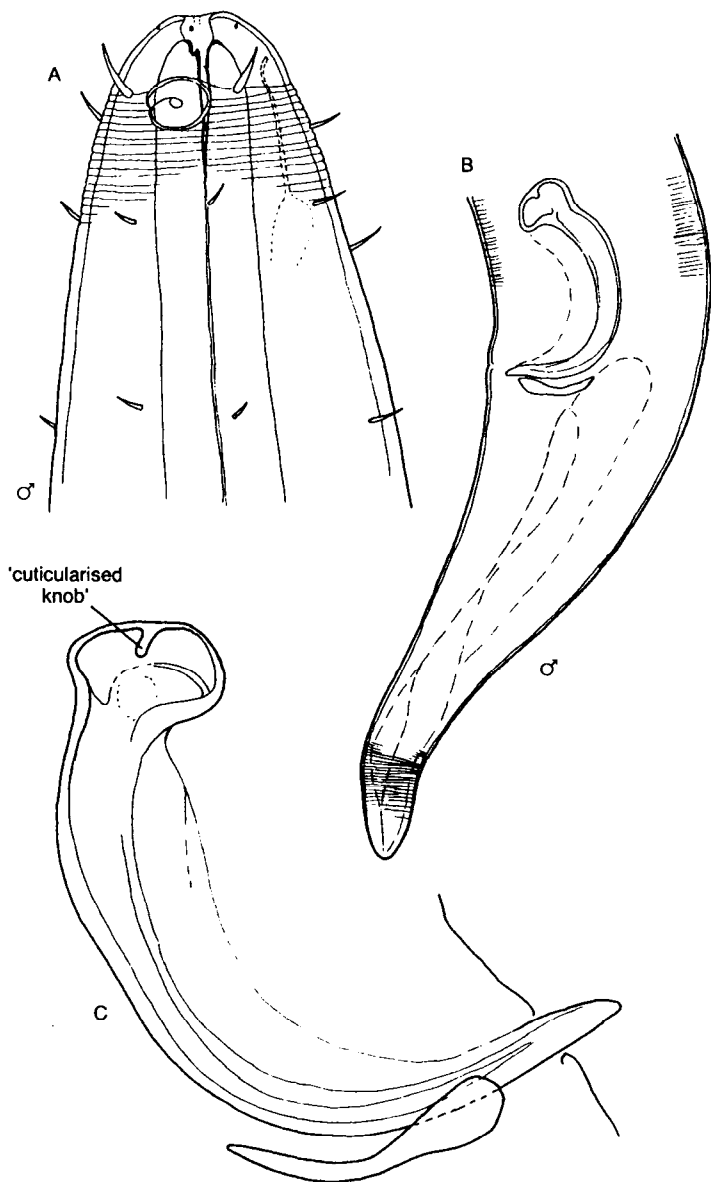


Fig. 148. *Spirinia parasitifera*. A, Male head; B, Male tail; C, Spicules and gubernaculum. Original.