

Tricoma aff. *maxima* (Schepotieff) Allgén

Fig. 4C, D

Desmoscolex maximus Schepotieff, 1907, pl. 141-142; 1908, p. 190.

Tricoma maxima (Schepotieff) Allgén, 1942, p. 71; Timm, 1970, p. 62.

Male (4). $L = 753$ (747-767) μm ; $mbd = 108$ (100-128) μm ; $t = 143$ (138-151) μm ; $hd = 24 \times 21$ μm ; $cs = 12$ μm ; $ssl = 14$ μm ; and $ts = 16$ μm .

Female (6). $L = 752$ (654-874) μm ; $mbd = 108$ (90-131) μm ; and $t = 155$ (128-173) μm .

Description. Body composed of 38 dark rings, saucer-shaped at anterior and discus-shaped in center of body (i.e., beveled at both edges). Clear interzones at midbody as broad as rings at their base. Head almost square in lateral view, truncate at anterior and thickly cuticularized. Sturdy cephalic setae borne on peduncles. Large, pale, granular, vesiculate amphids covering all of head and broader

than head. Subdorsal and subventral somatic setae of equal length, hollow, with thick walls and broadly open at tip. Subdorsal setal pattern:

6, 11, 17, 23, 31

6, 10, 16, 23, 31

Subventral setal pattern:

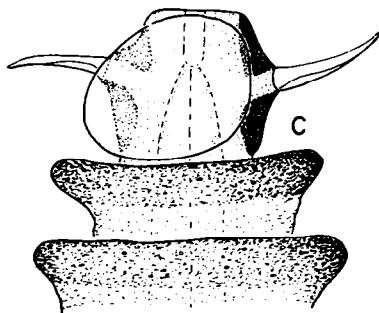
5, 8, 12, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36

4, 8, 12, 15, 19, 23, 27, 31, 36

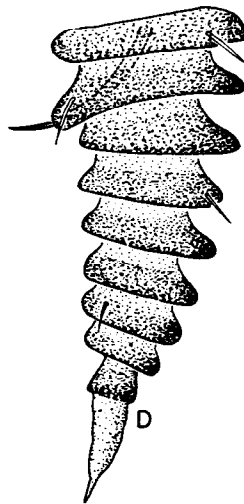
Anus and vulva obscure in female. Spicules about 55 μm long, cephalate; gubernaculum apparently absent. Tail composed of 7 rings in both sexes; last concretized for most of its length, with clear digitate tip.

Localities. Naples; Pacific Ocean; Hut Point, 457 m; Scott Base, 535 m; Cape Royds, 540 m.

Specimens. NMNH catalog numbers 50059-50066.



C, *T. maxima*, female head.



D, *T. maxima*, male tail

Discussion. In the two previous descriptions of this species the body has 39 rings, a greater number of setal pairs, and a longer terminal annule and digit. The present specimens cannot be adequately separated until variability within the species is better understood.