

*Aegialoalaimus elegans* De Man, 1907

(Fig. 213)

*Description.* Body length 1.0 mm. Maximum diameter 39–47  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 21\text{--}26$ ). Head and tail end similarly shaped so that under low magnification it is difficult to tell which end is which. Cuticle with coarse transverse striation which can first be detected a short distance behind the amphids; without lateral differentiation. Head slightly constricted at the level of the amphids. Cephalic setae 2  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.25 h.d.). Somatic setae absent. Amphids longitudinally oval, 11  $\mu\text{m}$  long and 8–9  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.75 c.d.) wide in male, 0.6 c.d. in female, with a spiral or circular central fleck. Isthmus of oesophagus begins at base of long tubular buccal cavity (Fig. 213C); spherical posterior bulb 18–24  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter. Tail 3.4 a.b.d. in male, 2.8 a.b.d. in female, conical with a bluntly rounded tip.

Spicules 34  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.4 a.b.d.) as curve, arcuate with the dorsal edge thickened and coiled proximally, and a thin ventral ala. Supplements absent.

Vulva at 47% of body length.

*Distribution.* Exe estuary, South West England; Tamar estuary, South West England (intertidal mud).

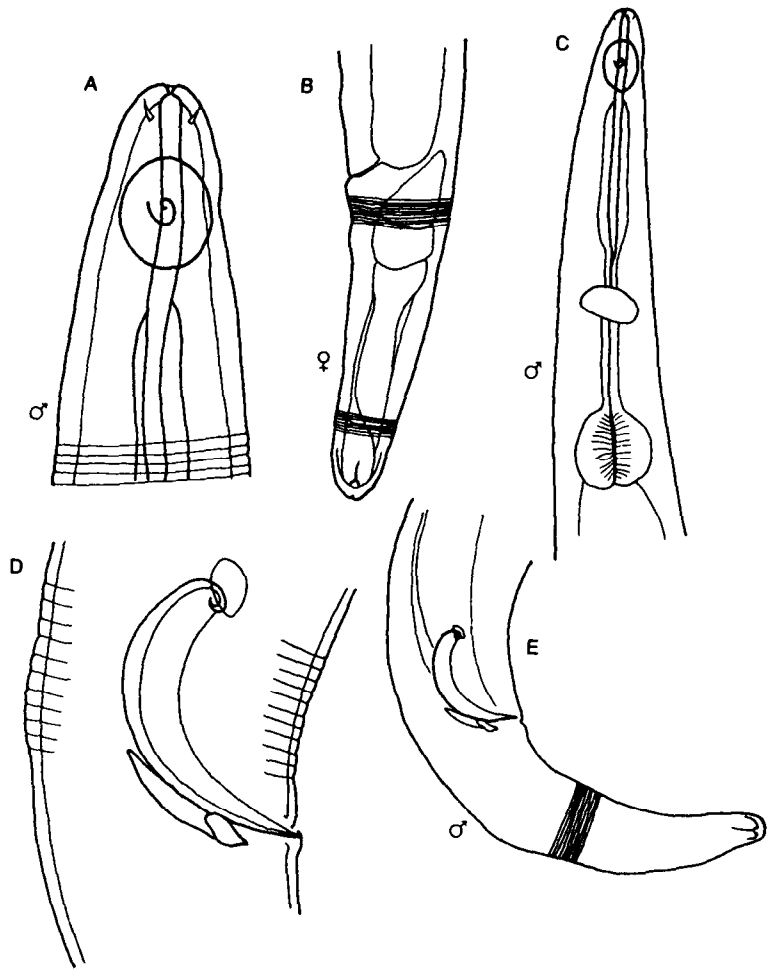


Fig. 213. *Aegialoalaimus elegans*. A, Male head; B, Female tail; C, Anterior end of male; D, Cloacal region; E, Male tail. Original.