

ANTICOMA MAJOR n.sp.

(Fig. 11, a-d.)

Stations : 39, 105, 107.

Female (3x) : L = 5.2-8 mm. ; α = 37-43 ; β = 5.8-6.2 ; γ = 8.4-9.8 ; V = 56-57%.

Male (1x) : L = 5.8 mm. ; α = 52.7 ; β = 6.1 ; γ = 9.6.

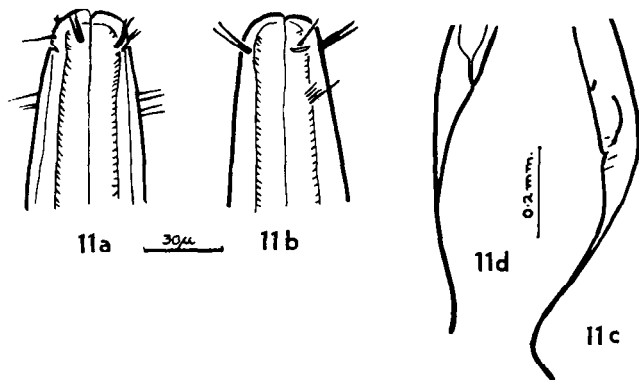
Juv. (2x) : L = 4.3-4.6 mm. ; α = 47.3 ; β = 5-5.8 ; γ = 9.2.

This is a relatively large species of *Anticoma*, without cuticular setae except the nuchal and caudal groups. The tail in both sexes has a conical proximal part and a very long cylindrical distal part, the former 1/3.6-1/4.0 of the total length. The head bears long cephalic setae, 1/1.8-1/2 of the head width. The amphids are small and lie immediately behind the lateral cephalic setae. Long nuchal setae, in a group of four, lie 26-30 μ from the anterior end in the female and 35 μ from the end in the male.

A buccal capsule is absent. The oesophagus widens slightly posterior to the nerve ring which surrounds it at 1/2-1/2.7 of its length from the head. The excretory pore lies about half way between the head and the nerve ring. No ripe eggs are present in the female.

The spicules are simple, slender and curved, measuring 100 μ (1/6 of the tail length, and 1.4 times the anal breadth), from tip to tip. No gubernaculum was seen. The lightly chitinised preanal tube is very small, 1/5 of the spicule length and lies just anterior to the proximal end of the resting spicule. The tail is 8 times the anal breadth. About four setae are present on each side of the anus.

This species is large compared with others of the genus. It differs from *A. subsimilis* Cobb from the Ross Sea in having relatively shorter spicules, no gubernaculum, and no buccal capsule, and from *A. dahli* Wieser in the more posterior position of the excretory pore and of the cervical setae.



11. *Anticoma major* : (a) and (b) ventral and sub-lateral views of head of male, to same scale ;
(c) and (d) tails of male and female, to same scale.

STATION 39 : 66° 10' S., 49° 41' E., T M L : 300 m.

Big haul characterized by silicious sponges with glass rope spicules. *Synapta*-like Holothurian common ; many Polyzoa of different species.

STATION 105 : 67° 46' S., 67° 03' E., D R L : 163 m.

No mud, only a few small erratics. Dominant forms listed as :—(1) Large club-like compound ascidians ; (2) Large simple free ascidians with hairy test ; (3) Transparent ascidian-like *Clavellina* ; (4) Several spp. of sponges. Pycnogonids, asteroids, and ophiuroids abundant. Nematodes very abundant in test of a large ascidian.

STATION 107 : 66° 45' S., 62° 03' E., D R L : 219 m.

Dredging on an off-shore submarine bank. Fine grey mud. Ophiuroids and Polyzoa chief animals. Nematodes among sponge spicules. Later the Large Otter Trawl brought up a catch with Polyzoa as the dominant group : calcareous and chitinous species.