

ANTICOMA STEKHOVENI n.sp.

(Fig. 13, a-c.)

Station : 88.

Female (1x) : L = 3.2 mm. ; α = 40 ; β = 5.3 ; γ = 15 ; V = 48.1%.

Male (3x) : L = 3.3-3.4 mm. ; α = 41-42 ; β = 4.9-5.5 ; γ = 14.8-16.5.

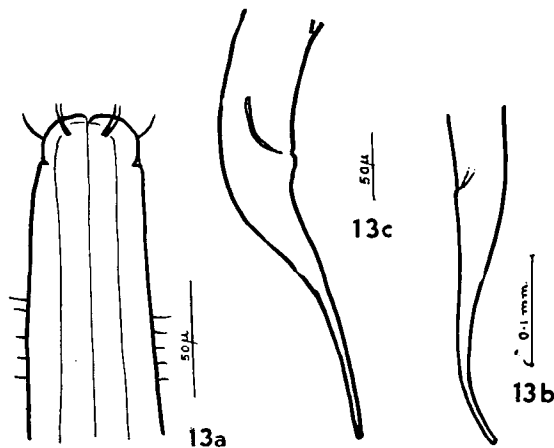
This species differs from the two preceding ones in the position of the amphids and nuchal setae, and in the position of the preanal organ and the size of the spicule in the male. *Anticoma subsimilis* Cobb 1914 was described from a male specimen from Cape Royds (in the Ross Sea) and Cobb subsequently (1930, p. 9) ascribed to the same species a female from Commonwealth Bay. The present species resembles *A. subsimilis* superficially, but differs in the more forward position of the nuchal setae and in the shortness of the spicule and tail.

They are slender worms, of almost uniform body width from nerve ring to anus. The cuticle is ringed and bears few setae.

The cephalic setae are short, about 1/3 of the cephalic diameter ; the amphids lie a very short distance behind the setae, a little more than half the cephalic diameter from the anterior end. The nuchal setae, 5-7 in number, are short and arranged in a longitudinal row about 20 μ long, the anteriormost at four times the distance of the amphid from the anterior end.

In the female tail the difference between conical and cylindrical parts is hardly marked, so gradually does it taper ; the length of the tail is 4 times the anal breadth. The ovaries occupy a restricted area about the midlength of the body, the anterior extending 0.44 mm. in front of the vulva, with reflexed portion 0.2 mm., the posterior 0.45 mm. from vulva, with reflexed position 0.35 mm. A shelled egg is present in the anterior uterus and measures 125 μ by 55 μ .

The length of the male tail is 0.2-0.23 mm., 4-4.9 times its anal breadth ; the anterior conical part is 1/1.5-1/2.5 times the length of the cylindrical part. The spicule is 40-50 μ from tip to tip, slightly less than the anal breadth ; the 10 μ long preanal organ is 2 anal breadths in front of the anus.



13. *A. stekhoveni* : (a) anterior end of male ; (b) tail of female ; (c) tail of male.

STATION 88 : 67° 008 S., 142° 36' E. At Commonwealth Bay, King George V. Land.

Collections ashore on rocks and in ice at Cape Denison, also dredging (DRS) from motor boat in Boat Harbour, and between the latter and the Mackellar Islets amongst kelp, 2-7 fathoms. Red and brown algae, nematodes in holdfast, &c.