

*Bathylaimus australis* Cobb, 1894

(Fig. 121)

*Description.* Body length 2.0–2.2 mm. Maximum diameter 40–69  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 30\text{--}50$ ). Cuticle smooth. Mouth surrounded by three high rounded lips which are deeply incised. Labial setae 4  $\mu\text{m}$ , conical. Six long four-jointed cephalic setae 17–21  $\mu\text{m}$  long (0.8 h.d.); four shorter two-jointed setae half their length. Buccal cavity in two separate sections: the anterior broad, rectangular, heavily cuticularised; the posterior small, weakly cuticularised with a pair of rounded subventral teeth. Amphids circular, 6–7  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter, notched at base where amphidial nerve exits, situated anterior to the constriction between the two sections of the buccal cavity. Oesophagus cylindrical, 0.2 times body length. Nerve ring 0.3–0.35 times oesophagus length from anterior. Tail of male conico-cylindrical, 3.3 a.b.d. long; female tail with apical quarter cylindrical, 4.2 a.b.d. Male tail with longish scattered setae, particularly near tip.

Spicules 42–44  $\mu\text{m}$  long, fairly straight, slightly cephalate proximally.

Gubernaculum 47–48  $\mu\text{m}$ , paired and swollen distally, each half with a rounded lateral projection and a pair of ventro-laterally directed teeth; proximally unpaired with thickened antero-ventral rib and narrow ala.

Ovaries small, paired, opposed, reflexed. Vulva at 49–52% of body length.

*Distribution.* Exe estuary; Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland (intertidal muddy sands); Isles of Scilly (among *Corallina*).

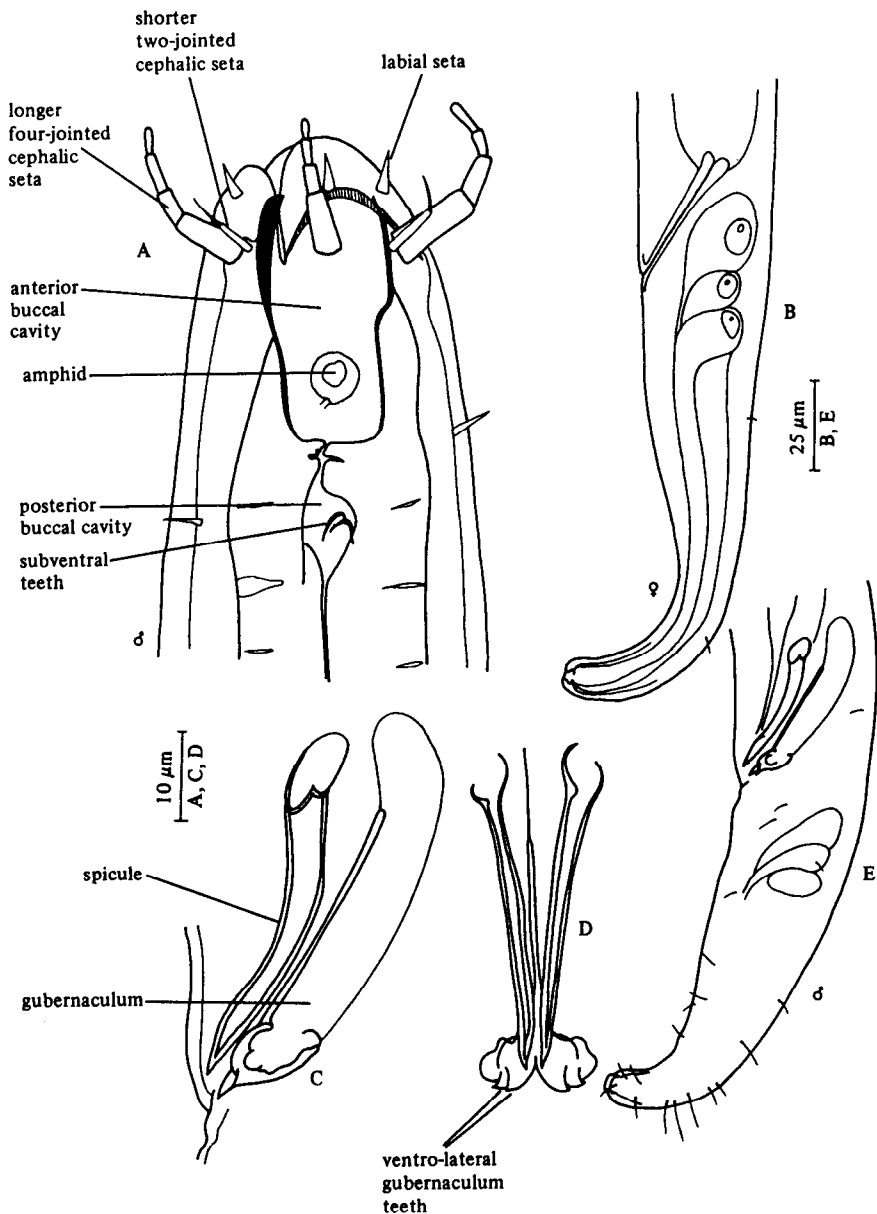


Fig. 121. *Bathylaimus australis*. A, Male head; B, Female tail; C, Spicules and gubernaculum (lateral); D, Spicules and gubernaculum (ventral); E, Male tail. Original.