Leptonemella aphanothecae Gerlach, 1950 (Fig. 168)

Description. Body length 3.9-4.0 mm. Maximum diameter 23-34 (a = 119-170). Cephalic capsule rounded, heavily cuticularised with small irregularly arranged punctations. Six minute and four long 22-24 μ m cephalic setae at the anterior extremity of the head. Eight 15-17 μ m subcephalic setae just posterior to amphids and eight 7-10 μ m subcephalic setae about half way down cephalic capsule. Eight files of 7-10 μ m somatic setae down body length. Amphids 8-9 μ m wide, a single loop at the anterior end of the cephalic capsule. Oesophagus narrow at its anterior end with an elongated posterior bulb 22-24 μ m long and 12-14 μ m wide. Tail 4.5-5.1 a.b.d., conical with unstriated tip.

Spicules 46 μ m (2.1 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, arcuate, squarely cephalate proximally with slender ventral ala. Gubernaculum 13 μ m, with rounded proximal projection. Supplements absent.

Vulva at 52% of body length.

Distribution. South Bay, North East Ireland; Exe estuary, South West England; Loch Ewe, West Scotland; Isles of Scilly (intertidal sand).

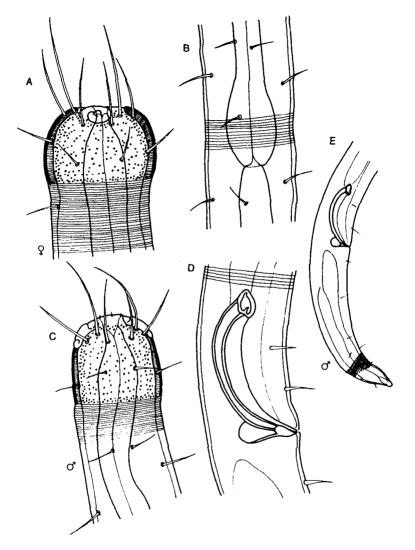


Fig. 168. Leptonemella aphanothecae. A, Female head; B, Region of oesophageal bulb; C, Male head, dorsal view; D, Cloacal region; E, Male tail. Original.