

Metachromadora (Chromadoropsis) vivipara (De Man, 1907)
(Fig. 157)

Description. Body length 1.4–1.7 mm. Maximum diameter 75–105 μm ($a = 15\text{--}19$). Six flap-like labial papillae. Six papilliform and four 4.5–5.5 μm short cephalic setae. Somatic setae short and sparse. Amphids 7 μm (0.25–0.3 c.d.) wide, a single loop. Oesophagus with an elongate posterior bulb, 100–110 μm long and 50–60 μm wide, with cuticularised internal lining divided into two equal sections (Fig. 157C). Tail 1.8–2.5 a.b.d., conical with a short unstriated tip.

Spicules 64 μm (1.1 a.b.d.), arcuate, slightly cephalate proximally with a ventral ala. Gubernaculum parallel to spicules. 16–23 large complicated heavily cuticularised precloacal supplements (Fig. 157F) reaching almost to the oesophagus (Fig. 157A).

Vulva at 50–60% of body length. As the specific name suggests, mature females contain coiled larvae developing in the uteri.

Distribution. Blyth estuary, North East England; Skippers Island, Essex; Exe estuary, South West England; Tamar estuary, South West England (intertidal mud); Strangford Lough, North East Ireland; Loch Ewe, West Scotland; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland (intertidal sand).

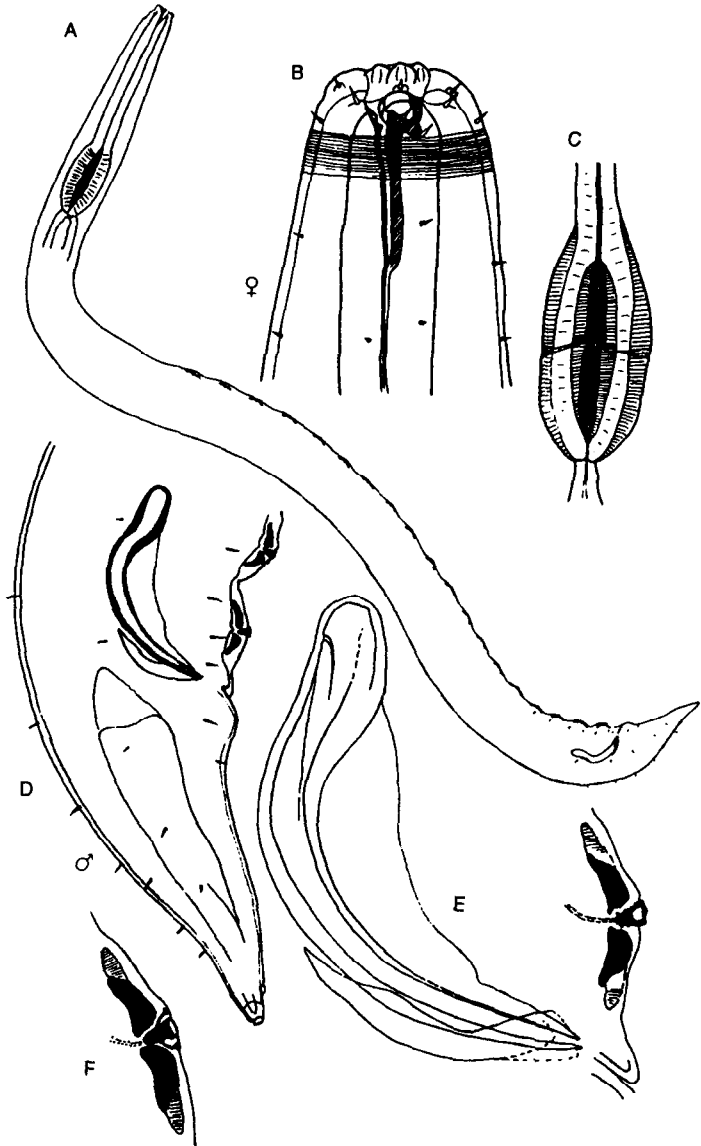


Fig. 157. *Metachromadora (Chromadoropsis) vivipara*. A, Entire male, B, Female head; C, Oesophageal bulb; D, Male tail; E, Cloacal region; F, Detail of precloacal supplement. Original.