

Monoposthia mirabilis Schulz, 1932
(Fig. 191)

Description. Body length 1.2–1.6 mm. Maximum diameter 30–45 μm ($a = 30\text{--}45$). First two cuticle annules enlarged and broken into blocks. Six longitudinal files of V-shaped markings, reversing in direction a short distance posterior to oesophagus. Four longer cephalic setae 12–16 μm (0.7–1.0 h.d.). Four files of 4–11 μm somatic setae. Amphids 3–5 μm (0.15–0.3 c.d.) wide, situated on the anterior part of the large lateral blocks of the second annule. Buccal cavity with dorsal tooth opposed by denticles. Oesophagus as *M. costata* (p. 408). Tail 3.4–4.3 a.b.d. with an unstriated tip.

Gubernaculum 25–34 μm (about 1.0 a.b.d.) with hammer-like proximal ends. Two or three stout papillae immediately in front of cloaca and a small post-cloacal cuticular projection. A ventral area of thickened cuticle about 55 μm long commencing about 0.6 tail lengths precloacally.

Vulva at 87–90% of body length.

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

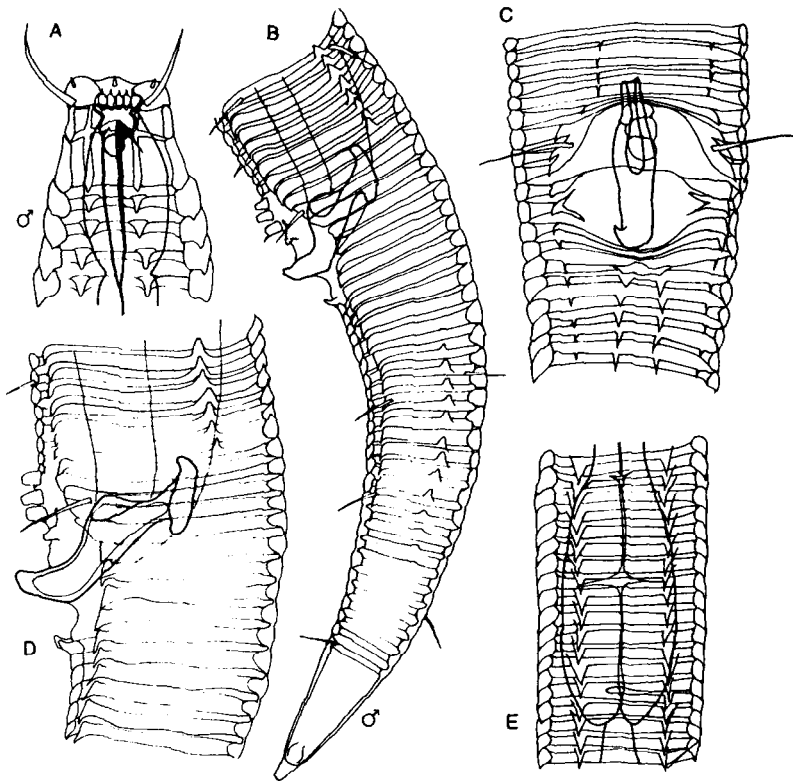


Fig. 191. *Monoposthia mirabilis*. A, Male head; B, Male tail; C-D, Ventral and lateral views of cloacal region; E, Region of oesophageal bulb. Original.