

Neochromadora paratecta Blome, 1974
(Fig. 79)

Description. Body length 1.3–1.4 mm. Maximum diameter 24–35 μm ($a = 40\text{--}54$). Similar to *N. peocilosoma* (p. 176). The presence of eight larger (as opposed to nine smaller) precloacal supplements seems to be the only consistent feature separating these two species. Other authors have used the length of the cephalic setae and the presence or absence of denticles in the buccal cavity as a basis for separating them, but the cephalic setae length appears to be variable (between 0.4–0.9 h.d.) in both species and both have denticles in the buccal cavity.

Distribution. Firth of Clyde, West Scotland (intertidal sand).

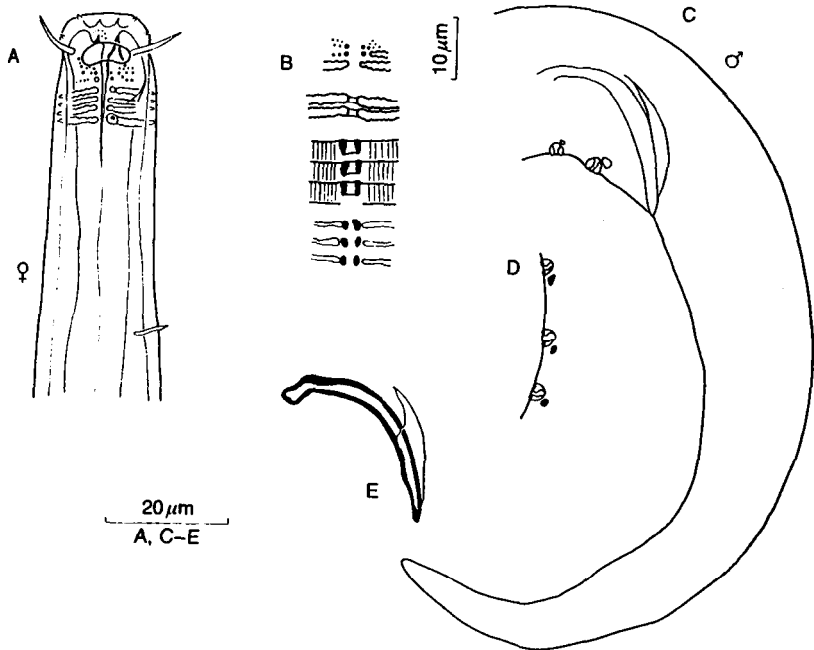


Fig. 79. *Neochromadora paratecta*. A, Female head; B, Lateral cuticle pattern in (respectively from top) post-amphidial region, base of oesophagus, mid-body, cloacal region; C, Male tail; D, Detail of precloacal supplements; E, Spicules and gubernaculum. From Blome (1974).