Oncholaimus paraegypticus n.sp.

(Fig. 34, a–c.)

Stations : 41 (OTL), 100, 105, 106.

Female (3x) : L = 5.4–6.8 mm. ; α = 36–45.3 ; β = 6.7–9 ; γ = 29–32 ; V = 76%.

Male (2x) : L = 4.8–5.1 mm. ; α = 34 ; β = 6.4–7 ; γ = 32.

This species is of relatively small size, the body tapering very little except near the head and behind the anus. The cuticle is very faintly lined, and bears few setae.

The lips are not strongly marked, but there are six small labial papillae. There are 10 cephalic setae, the submedian ones, a little longer than the laterals, about a sixth to a seventh of the cephalic diameter. The buccal cavity is about three-quarters as wide (external measurement) as it is long. It is stoutly built. The longer subventral tooth extends into the second eighth from the anterior end of the buccal cavity ; the tips of the dorsal tooth and shorter subventral tooth, almost equal in length, lie in the fourth eighth. The opening of the amphid is a transverse oval with a length of about a fifth of the corresponding head diameter ; it lies at the level of the tips of the two shorter teeth.

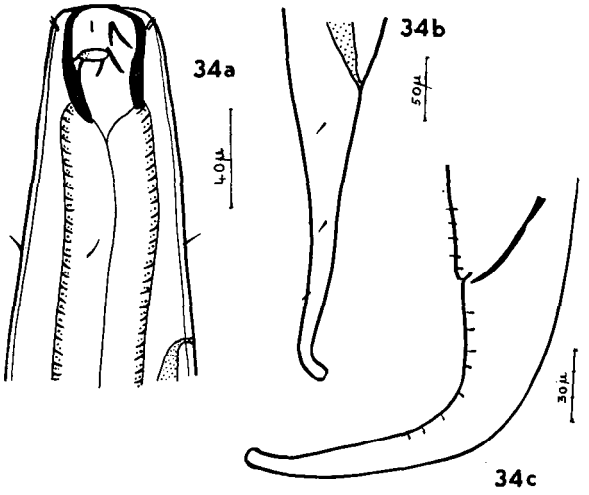
The nerve ring surrounds the oesophagus at its midlength. The excretory pore lies about two and a half times the length of the buccal capsule behind the anterior end. The ventral gland was not seen.

The tail in both sexes is elongate, tapering most rapidly in the proximal quarter, and ending in a bulbar swelling, surrounded by about six setae. In the female the tail is 4–5 times the anal breadth, in the male 3 times.

The male tail bears almost mid ventrally two rows of setae of which about five pairs are preanal and seven postanal. The spicule is 40–50μ long ; a gubernaculum is not present.

The single anterior ovary is reflexed ; the distance of the flexure from the vulva is about a third of the body length. The " rosette " structure lies about twice the length of the tail in front of the anus.

The species is close to *O. aegypticus* Steiner, but is distinguished by the shorter buccal capsule, the position of the excretory pore, and the value. *O. aegypticus* was recorded by Allgen (1928, 278) from Campbell Island, and in this specimen the buccal capsule is elongate.



34. *Oncholaimus paraegypticus :* (*a*) anterior end, lateral view ; (*b*) tail of female ; (*c*) tail of male.

Station 41 : 65° 48′ S., 53° 16′ E., T M L : 193 m.

Large haul. Trawl full of sponges and sponge mud : glass rope sponge predominant. Much mud with very many molluscs : many ophiuroids. Later, operating at this station with the Large Otter Trawl (O.T.L.), the catch comprised a striking haul of alcyonarians, holothurians " many ", compound ascidians " common ".

Station 100 : 65° 48′ S., 89° 49′ E., D R L : 393 m.

Representatives of most groups present. No note as to bottom, or predominance of any fauna.

Station 105 : 67° 46′ S., 67° 03′ E., D R L : 163 m.

No mud, only a few small erratics. Dominant forms listed as :—(1) Large club-like compound ascidians ; (2) Large simple free ascidians with hairy test ; (3) Transparent ascidian-like *Clavellina* ; (4) Several spp. of sponges. Pycnogonids, asteroids, and ophiuroids abundant. Nematodes very abundant in test of a large ascidian.

Station 106 : 67° 38′ S., 64° 52′ E., D R L : 210–17 m.

Very little taken as dredge struck rock bottom. Kelp, *Lithothamnion* ; nematodes in holdfasts, also polychaetes and nemerteans.