

*Prochromadorella septempapillata* Platt, 1973  
(Fig. 51)

*Description.* Body length 1.2–1.5 mm ( $a = 40\text{--}49$ ). Cuticle ornamentation heterogeneous but devoid of lateral differentiation. The first annule is elongated, about 11  $\mu\text{m}$  long, and bears only a few lightly cuticularised dots (Fig. 51A). The remainder of the annules are 2.0–2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  wide. In the lateral region, extending almost half way along the oesophagus length, there are transverse rows of large round dots. Posterior to this the cuticle ornamentation consists of transverse bands which can be resolved into battlement-like structures (Fig. 51C). Cephalic setae very fine, 5.5–6.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.4 h.d.). Few short cervical and caudal setae, about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  long, but setae appear to be absent from the rest of the body. Amphids transversely oval, indistinct and lying between the cephalic setae (Fig. 51A); 5–8  $\mu\text{m}$  wide (0.4–0.5 times h.d.). Buccal cavity with three equally-sized solid teeth (may appear hollow in some specimens). Oesophagus widens posteriorly to an elongated bulb not differentiated from the rest of the oesophagus (Fig. 51E). Tail 6 a.b.d. in males, 7.4–8.7 a.b.d. in females, with a characteristic unstriated recurved tip (Fig. 51D).

Spicules 29–34  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.2 a.b.d.). Gubernaculum weakly cuticularised, with two prominent 18–21  $\mu\text{m}$  lateral pieces, which bear outwardly-curved distal spines. Seven well-developed cup-shaped precloacal supplements.

*Distribution.* Strangford Lough, North East Ireland (intertidal sand).

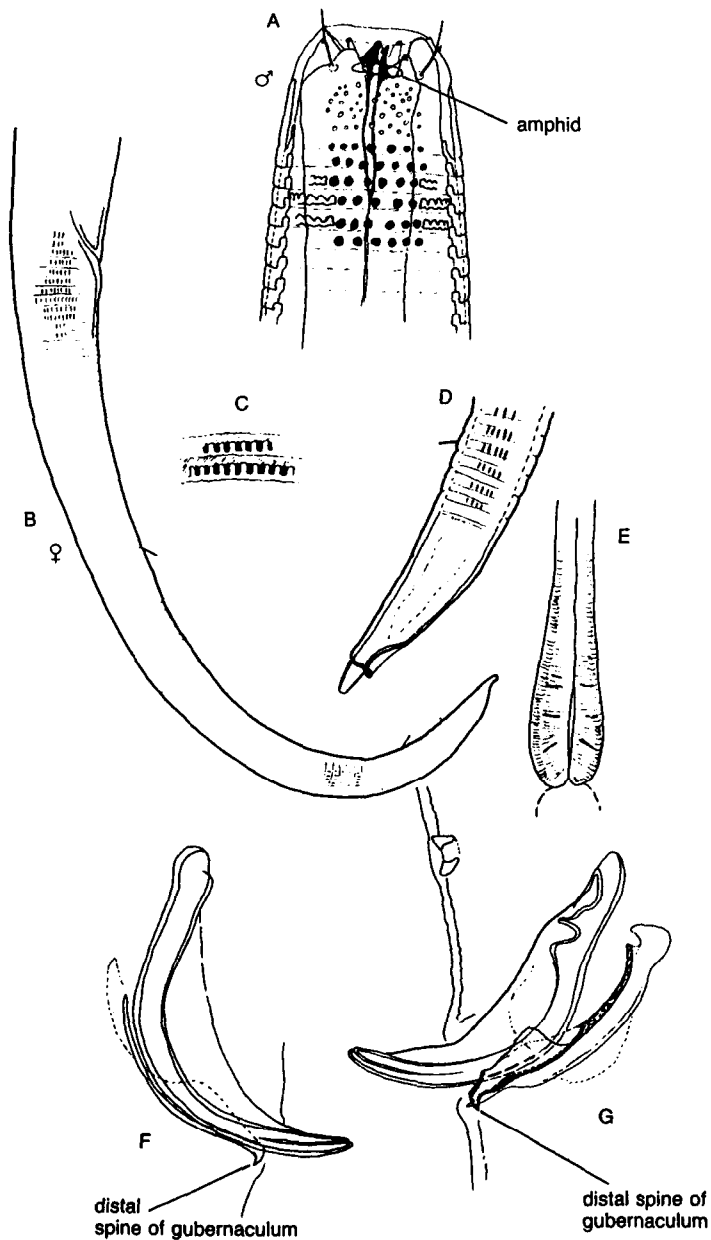


Fig. 51. *Prochromadorella septempapillata*. A, Male head; B, Female tail; C, Lateral cuticle in mid-body; D, Tail tip; E, Oesophageal bulb; F, G, Copulatory apparatus of two males. Original.