

*Quadricoma avicapitata* n. sp.

Fig. 3A-C

*Holotype male.*  $L = 350 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $mbd = 32 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $t = 64 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $hd = 14 \times 12 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $cs = 13 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $ssl = 13 \mu\text{m}$ ; and  $ts = 10 \mu\text{m}$ .

*Female (2).*  $L = 333 (304-363) \mu\text{m}$ ;  $mbd = 36 (34-39) \mu\text{m}$ ; and  $t = 68 (63-74) \mu\text{m}$ .

*Description.* Body composed of 33 (female) or 34 (male) rings; reversal of marginal slope occurs in annules 22-23. Cuticle light in color; lightly concretized. Head prolonged anteriorly as a beak or rostrum, directed obliquely toward right side. Large, slightly elliptical amphids covering most of head except beak. Red pigment spots, located at level of annules 10-12, up to  $12 \mu\text{m}$  long. Setal pattern almost the same on both sides of body. Setal pattern in male:

3, 7, 11, 12, 15, 20/21, 26, 31

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3, 5, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19/20, 22/24, 25/28, 33

Vulva between annules 19 and 20. Spicules cephalate,  $31 \mu\text{m}$  long. Gubernaculum lacking or a short parallel piece. Tail composed of 6 rings. Tail cone  $23-40 \mu\text{m}$  long, with fine clear digit at tip.

*Type locality.* Hut Point, 457 m.

*Specimens.* Holotype male: collected by R. W. Timm and D. R. Viglierchio on December 10, 1969; NMNH catalog number 50014. Paratype: 1 female; NMNH catalog number 50015.

*Discussion.* This species shows a remarkable convergence with *Desmoscolex rostratus* Timm, 1970, which has 31 rings. *Q. trigintatres* Timm, 1970, which has 33 rings and short spicules, is the closest relative in the genus *Quadricoma*, but it is larger and lacks the rostrum.

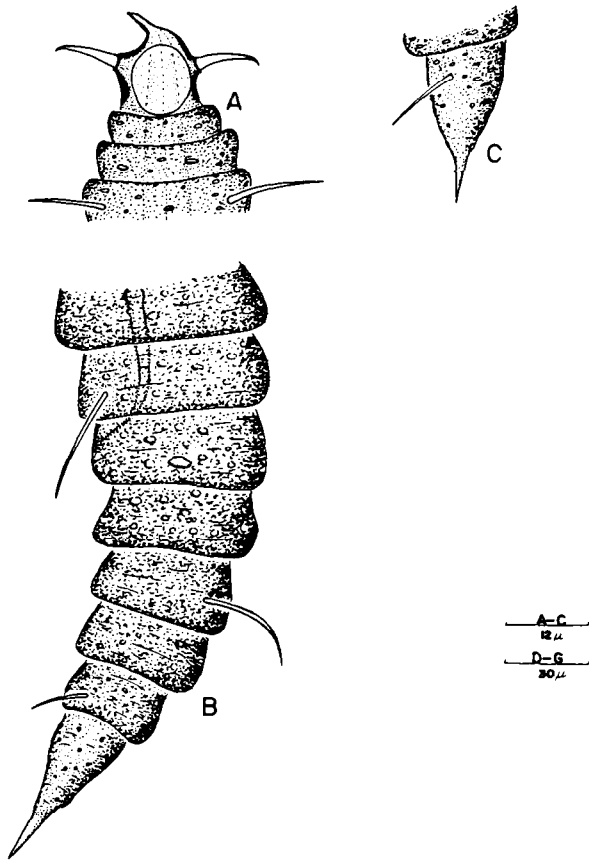


Fig. 3. *Quadricoma* spp.: A, *Q. avicapitata* n. sp., male head; B, *Q. avicapitata* n. sp., male tail; C, *Q. avicapitata* n. sp., female tail tip;