

Richtersia inaequalis Riemann, 1966
(Fig. 140)

Description. Body length 0.6–0.8 mm. Maximum diameter 47–100 μm ($a = 8$ –14). Body brownish. Cuticle transversely striated with 40 files of spines in anterior region of body, 24–30 more posteriorly. In the male four ventral files of larger differently-shaped spines (Fig. 140D) beginning about half-way along the oesophagus and terminating just anterior to cloaca. Six 8–9 μm stout cephalic setae behind which there is a prominent collar with a circle of six 7–8 μm subcephalic setae. Eight files of 6 μm cervical setae, more numerous anteriorly; other somatic setae shorter and sparser. Amphids in male of 4.5 turns, 16 μm (0.5 c.d.) wide (Fig. 140A); in female smaller, a single oval loop 8 μm (0.2–0.3 c.d.) wide (Fig. 140B). Buccal cavity rectangular in outline but may appear conical in some specimens. Tail 1.5–2 a.b.d., conical with an unstriated terminal portion.

Spicules unequal: shorter left spicule 39–56 μm (about 1.5 a.b.d.), curved and cephalate proximally, with a pair of faint ventral alae sometimes visible distally and also a dorsal and ventral ala proximally (Fig. 140E); longer right spicule 113–132 μm (about 3 a.b.d.), narrow, curved and cephalate proximally, frequently slightly bent at the proximal end. Gubernaculum paired, well-cuticularised proximally but less so distally, making measurement difficult, but in the best specimens available it was 23 μm .

Distribution. Strangford Lough, North East Ireland; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland; Firth of Forth, East Scotland (intertidal fine sediments, but perhaps more typical of the sublittoral).

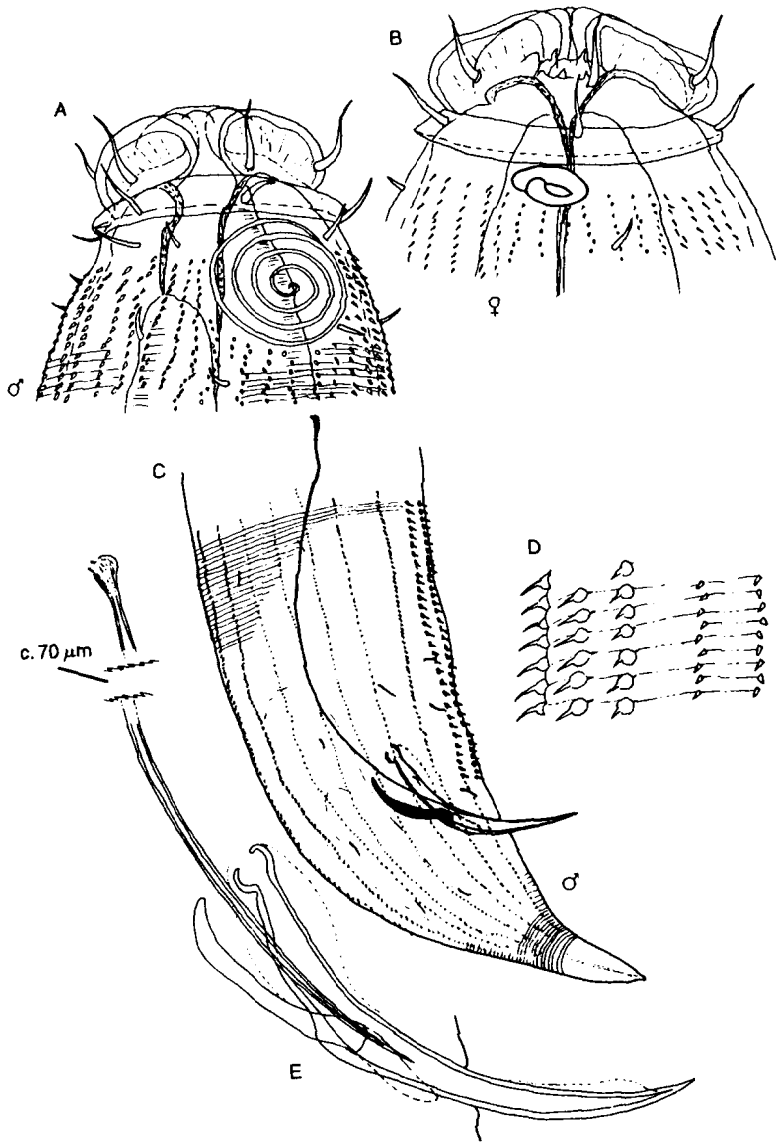


Fig. 140. *Richtersia inaequalis*. A, Male head; B, Female head; C, Male tail; D, Subventral cuticle structure; E, Spicules and gubernaculum. Original.