

Sigmophoranema rufum (Cobb, 1933)
(Fig. 161)

Description. Body length 1.5–1.8 mm. Maximum diameter 35–48 μm ($a = 33\text{--}43$). Cuticle striation commences at posterior boarder of amphids. Six anterior short 4 μm and four posterior longer 10–12 μm cephalic setae: head of specimens examined all invaginated so that it is not possible to give setae lengths in h.d. Eight long 12–14 μm subcephalic setae in a circle just posterior to the amphids. Cervical setae fairly numerous, basically arranged in four files to the base of the oesophagus: somatic setae thereafter much more scarce. Amphids 11–13 μm wide. Anterior portion of buccal cavity globular with numerous small denticles ventrolaterally; posterior portion conoid and deep with dorsal tooth projecting forward between the denticles opposed by two small subventral teeth. Posterior oesophageal bulb 53–72 μm long and 26–34 μm wide, lining not thickened. Tail 3.8–5.0 a.b.d., conical, slightly swollen subterminally with a pointed tip and three terminal setae (Fig. 161D).

Spicules 160–176 μm (4.3–4.9 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, funnel shaped proximally. 17–21 precloacal supplements, posterior one slightly smaller and less heavily cuticularised, more closely spaced posteriorly with single ventral seta between each.

Vulva at 56% of body length.

Distribution. Exe estuary, South West England; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland (intertidal sand).

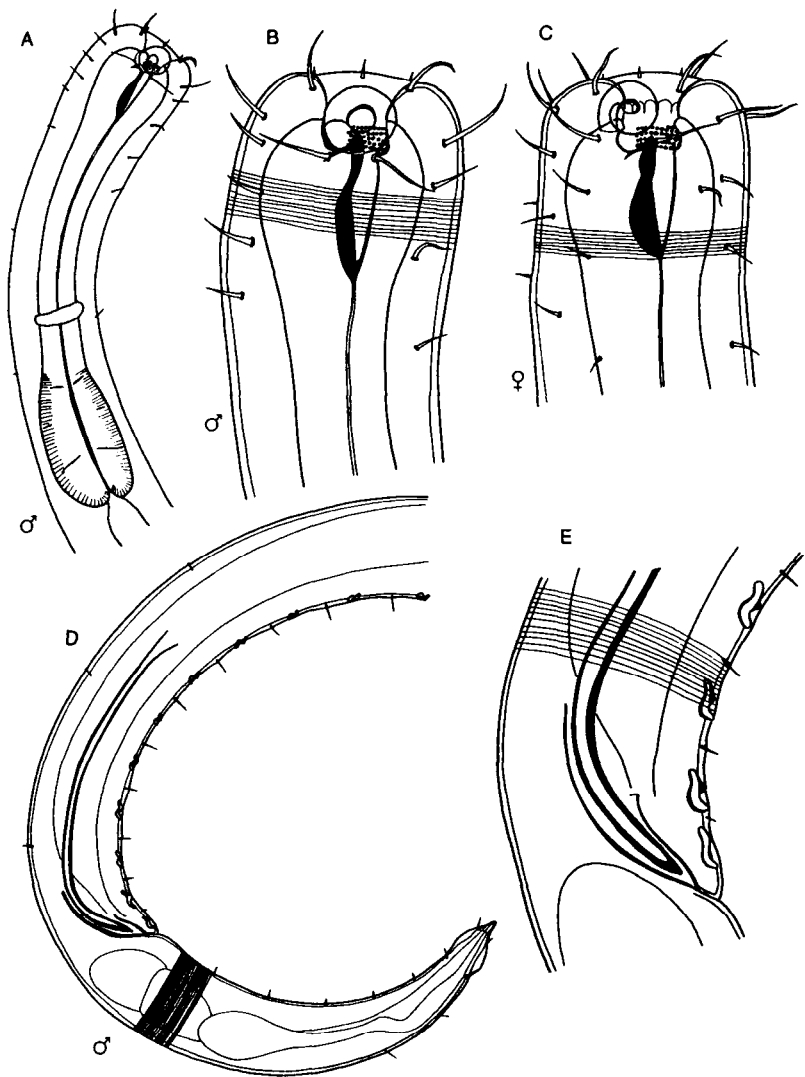


Fig. 161. *Sigmophoranema rufum*. A, Anterior region; B, Male head; C, Female head; D, Male tail; E, Cloacal region. Original.