

*Spilophorella paradoxa* (De Man, 1888)  
(Fig. 81)

*Description.* Body length 0.9 mm. Maximum diameter 30–32  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 29\text{--}30$ ). Cuticle with lateral differentiation of larger dots extending throughout the length of the body: lateral dots larger in oesophageal and tail regions (cf. Figs 81C, D). Four 8  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.6 h.d.) cephalic setae. Two pairs of sublateral setae level with the base of the buccal cavity (Fig. 81A). Amphids an elongated transverse slit between cephalic setae. Buccal cavity with prominent hollow dorsal tooth. Anterior oesophageal bulb shorter than posterior (Fig. 81B). Tail conical, 4.9–5.2 a.b.d., with an elongated spinneret about 20–30% of total tail length (Fig. 81F).

Spicules 37  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.5 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, arcuate. Gubernaculum 26  $\mu\text{m}$ , hooked distally (Fig. 81E). Single ventral precloacal seta.

*Distribution.* Plymouth, South West England; Isles of Scilly (intertidal seaweeds); Blyth estuary, North East England; Tamar estuary, South West England (intertidal mud); Firth of Clyde, West Scotland (intertidal sand).

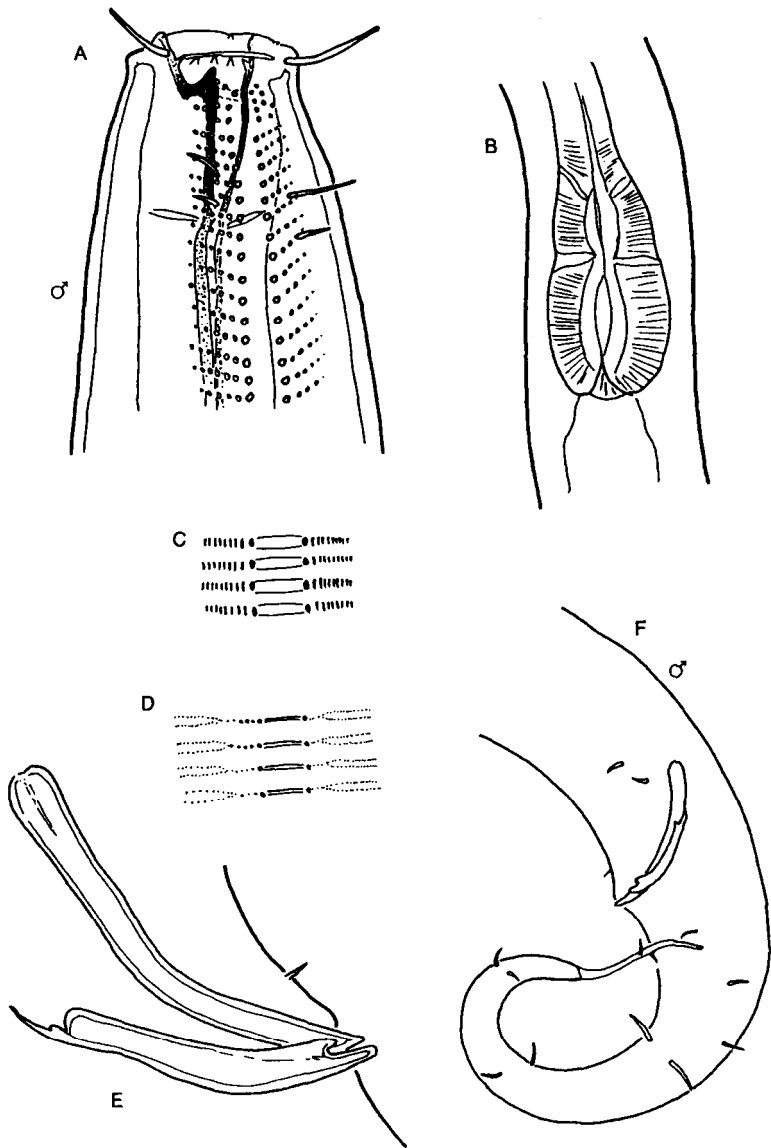


Fig. 81. *Spilophorella paradoxa*. A, Male head; B, Oesophageal bulb; C-D, Lateral cuticle pattern in oesophageal region (C), mid-body (D); E, Spicules and gubernaculum; F, Male tail. Original.