

Spirinia laevis (Bastian, 1865)
(Fig. 149)

Description. Body length 3.2–3.9 mm. Maximum diameter 52–64 μm ($a = 55$ –74). Similar to *S. parasitifera* (p. 324) except: cephalic setae 13–16 μm (0.7–0.9 h.d.); eight files of long 21–27 μm cervical setae, becoming progressively shorter and sparser towards the base of the oesophagus; buccal cavity only lightly cuticularised, without subventral teeth (or too small to be visible); spicules with a characteristic triangular proximal cephalisation.

Vulva at 60–64% of body length.

Distribution. Falmouth, South West England; South Bay, North East Ireland; Strangford Lough, North East Ireland; Exe estuary, South West England; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland; Firth of Forth, East Scotland (intertidal sand).

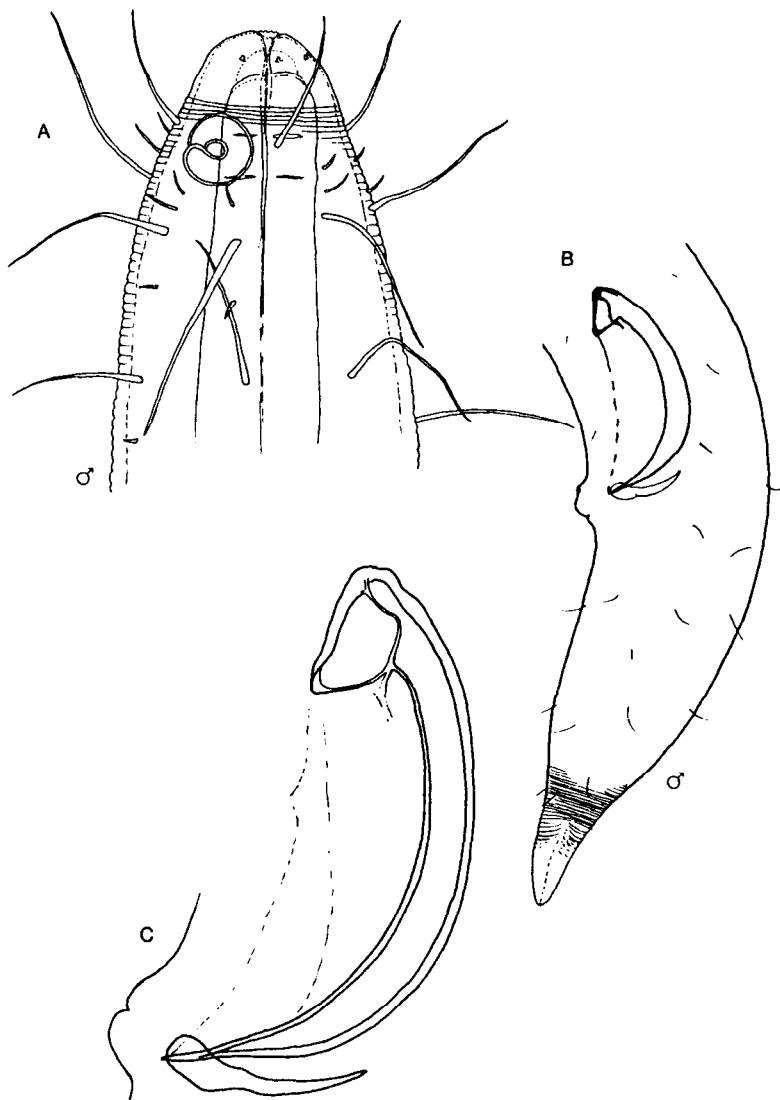


Fig. 149. *Spirinia laevis*. A, Male head; B, Male tail; C, Spicules and gubernaculum.
Original.