Steineridora adriatica (v. Daday, 1901) (Fig. 63)

Description. Body length 1.2–1.7 mm. Maximum diameter $55-100 \,\mu\text{m}$ (a = 17–24). Hexagonal blocks of cuticle at anterior end break up into small rounded dots on the head (Fig. 63B). Blocks elongated posteriorly; lateral plates not discernible. Four longer cephalic setae $10 \,\mu\text{m}$. Body setae in four files at anterior end and on tail but sparse in mid-body region. Dorsal tooth in buccal cavity large, solid, rectangular, 7.5 μ m long, opposed by sickle-like subventral structures. Oesophagus with prominent posterior bulb 57 × 33 μ m and thick cuticlar lining (Fig. 63C). Tail conical, 3.7 a.b.d. in both sexes.

Spicules 60 μ m, equal, with slight swelling near proximal tip and weaklydeveloped ventral alae which are sometimes difficult to see. Telamons L-shaped, 36 μ m, without teeth or swellings at the distal end. Gubernaculum 36 μ m.

Distribution. North and south coasts of Devon; Isles of Scilly (intertidal seaweeds).

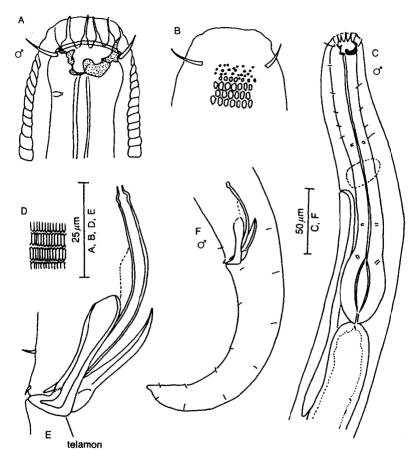


Fig. 63. Steineridora adriatica. A, Male head (deep focus showing buccal armature); B, Male head (shallow focus showing lateral cuticle pattern); C, Anterior end of male; D, Lateral cuticle pattern at mid-body; E, Spicules and gubernaculum; F, Male tail. Original.