

THORACOSTOMA (THORACOSTOMA) SCHIZOEPISTYLIUM n.sp.

(Fig. 2a-c.)

B.A.N.Z.A.R.E. Stations 93 (♂), 107 (♀).

♀ (1x) L. 20.8 mm.; $\alpha = 104$; $\beta = 9.4$; $\gamma = 200$; $V = 64\%$.

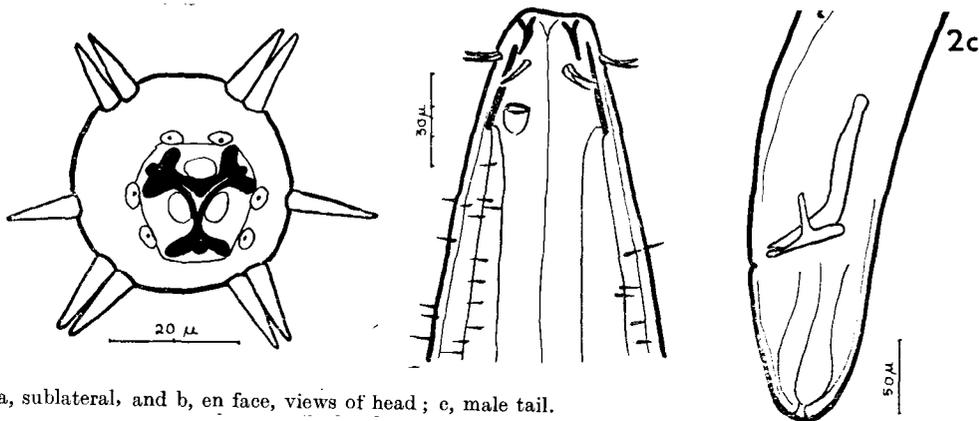
♂ (1x) L. 20.2 mm.; $\alpha = 101$; $\beta = 9.2$; $\gamma = 202$.

This is a long slender species. The cephalic setae are between a half and a third of the cephalic breadth, and those of the submedian pairs are of equal length. The labial papillae are present but small. The helmet is only lightly chitinised and its posterior border seen only in profile view. The processes which unite the helmet and the stomodeal capsule, are bifid anteriorly, so that each angle of the triangular mouth fits between the two tips of one process. In lateral view these processes resemble those drawn for *T. (Synonchoides) galathea* by Wieser (1956, 248, Fig. 4a), but en face view makes it clear that they are not projecting teeth but are embedded in the head tissue, in a position corresponding to the claviform process described by de Man for *T. setosum*, rather than to the cordiform structure described by the same author in *T. antarcticum*; that is, they lie at the corners of the mouth, not medially on the lips, this latter being, as I understand it, the position of the toothed plates in *T. (S.) galathea*. There are no stomatal or oesophageal teeth, but the dorsal lip is very strongly sclerotised and projects into the space between the other two lips.

The amphid is large, the opening a transverse slit about a fifth of the corresponding cephalic breadth in the male, a little less in the female, and situated some distance behind the lateral cephalic setae. The nuchal setae are long and numerous. No eyespot or pigmentation is present.

The tail length is 1.1 anal breadths in both sexes, and is rounded at the tip. The caudal glands are preanal. The spicule is strongly built and bent and measures 120μ from tip to tip. The gubernaculum is 60μ long, and has a long slender anterior prelongation. The small preanal organ is 90μ in front of the anus, and in front of it are about six pairs of papillae. No caudal or preanal setae are seen, except two at each side of the tip of the tail.

The position of this species in the genus is difficult to determine because of the obscurity of the posterior border of the helmet. It resembles *T. filipjevi* Steiner and *T. kreisi* Wieser in the shape of the amphidial opening (elongate instead of round) and in the small, forwardly situated, preanal organ.



2. *T. (T.) schizoepistylum*. a, sublateral, and b, en face, views of head; c, male tail.

STATION 93 : $64^{\circ} 21' S.$, $116^{\circ} 02' E.$, T.M.L., 2286-2267 metres.

The dredge brought up fine mud and a few small stones. Most invertebrate phyla were represented ; nothing apparently numerous or predominant.

STATION 107 : $66^{\circ} 45' S.$, $62^{\circ} 03' E.$, D R L : 219 m.

Dredging on an off-shore submarine bank. Fine grey mud. Ophiuroids and Polyzoa chief animals. Nematodes among sponge spicules. Later the Large Otter Trawl brought up a catch with Polyzoa as the dominant group : calcareous and chitinous species.