

Enoplolaimus propinquus De Man, 1922

(Fig. 50)

Description. Body length 1.6–2.6 mm. Maximum diameter 47–85 μm ($a = 29\text{--}35$). Cuticle with fine transverse striations. Head tapered, often bent to one side in fixed specimens. Three fairly low flap-like lips with no internal striation. Six labial setae 12–15 μm . Six long and four short cephalic setae, level with base of cephalic capsule: the single lateral setae 56–72 μm , *slightly* longer than the longer setae of each submedian pair; shorter submedian setae about half the length of the longer ones. Four small sublateral setae just posterior to the cephalic setae. Male with a circle of 8 long cervical setae just behind head, and a particularly dense area of shorter body setae about 3.5 h.d. from anterior. Female with no cervical setae. Mandibles typical of genus, appearing as two lateral rods united by an anterior curved bar. Teeth (or onchia) equal in size. Oesophagus cylindrical, 0.20–0.25 times body length. Tail 4–6 a.b.d. long, anterior half conical, remainder cylindrical, tip slightly swollen.

Spicules equal, 38–48 μm (curve), bent sharply in middle with a single laterally projecting tooth at their distal ends.

Gubernaculum paired, straight, 15–19 μm . Supplement 9–11 μm , a simple cuticularised cylinder positioned ventrally 1.9–2.3 a.b.d. in front of cloaca.

Ovaries symmetrical, paired, reflexed. Vulva at 59–60% of body length.

Distribution. Northern Ireland; Exe estuary; Loch Ewe (Scotland); Clyde (all intertidal sand).

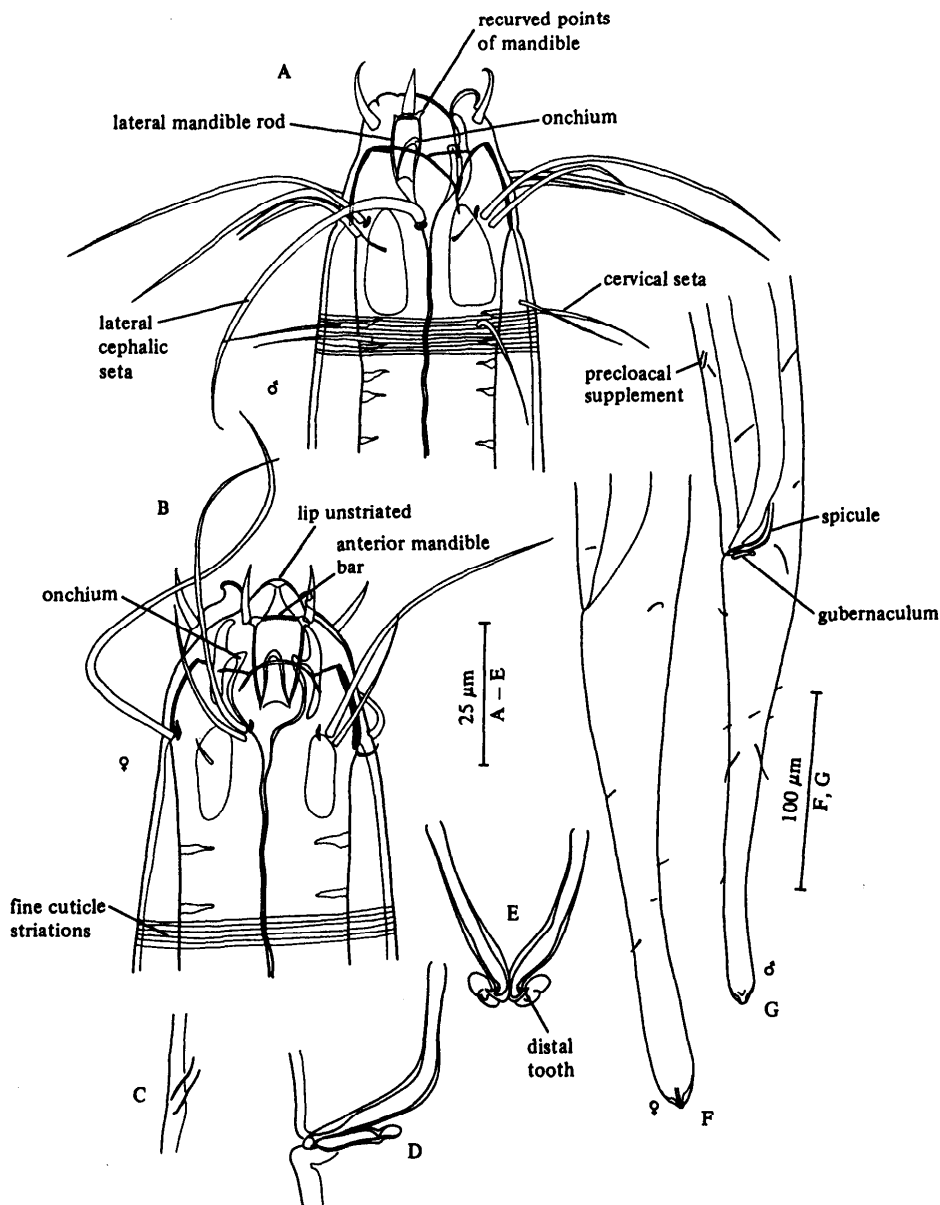


Fig. 50. *Enoplolaimus propinquus*. A, Male head; B, Female head; C, Supplement; D, Spicules and gubernaculum (lateral); E, Spicules and gubernaculum (ventral); F, Female tail; G, Male tail. Original.