

*Leptolaimus ampullaceus* Warwick, 1970  
(Fig. 197)

**Description.** Body length 0.9–1.3 mm. Maximum diameter 14–29  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 46$ –68). Cuticle with widely spaced striations; without lateral differentiation. Four long cephalic setae 5–8  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.0–1.2 h.d.); a single file of prominent conical papillae down each side of the body. Amphids circular or slightly elongate ovals, 4–5  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.6–0.7 c.d.) wide and 4–7  $\mu\text{m}$  long. Buccal cavity appears to be small and tapering, but merges imperceptibly with lumen of oesophagus. Oesophagus narrow anteriorly, broadening posteriorly to level of amphids with three small swellings along its length and a small posterior bulb. Tail in male about 9.5 a.b.d., conico-cylindrical with posterior two-thirds filiform, in female about 11 a.b.d., cylindrical.

Spicules 17–19  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.3 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, fairly straight. Gubernaculum with a pair of slender dorsal apophyses. 7–12 tubular cuticularised precloacal supplements, 9–11  $\mu\text{m}$  long, with rounded cephalisations proximally and, when extruded from the body, can be seen to have small denticles on the distal tips but when withdrawn this feature is concealed by densely thickened regions of the ventral cuticle; proximally each supplement is attached to a pear-shaped ampulla.

Vulva at 46–49% of body length. In one of the three females examined, there was a single ventral supplement identical in structure to those found in the male, situated 170  $\mu\text{m}$  posterior to the vulva.

**Distribution.** Exe estuary, South West England; Firth of Clyde, West Scotland (intertidal sand).

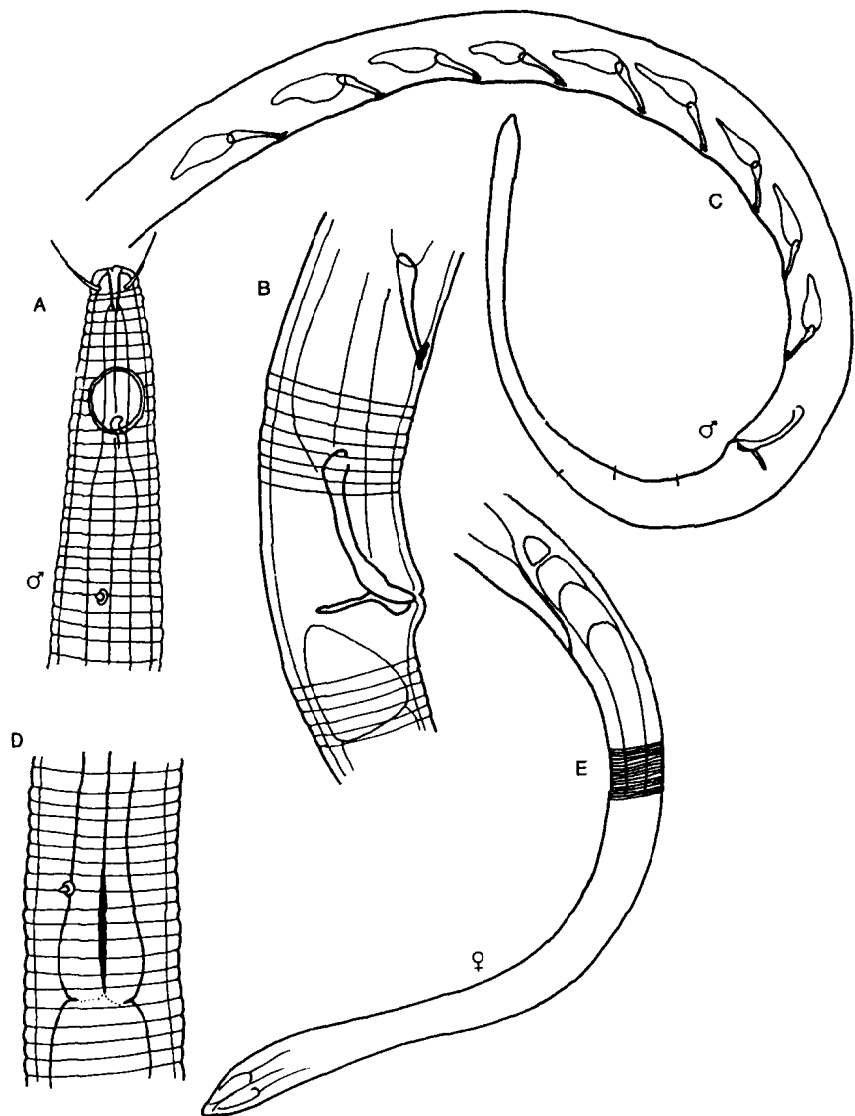


Fig. 197. *Leptolaimus ampullaceus*. A, Male head; B, Cloacal region; C, Male tail; D, Region of oesophageal bulb; E, Female tail. Original.