

*Phanoderma albidum* Bastian, 1865

(Fig. 68)

**Description.** Body length 4.5 mm. Maximum diameter 165  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 27$ ). Cuticle smooth with a few scattered very short somatic setae. Anterior gradually attenuated; head diameter about 15% of the body diameter at the posterior end of the oesophagus. Six labial papillae. Ten cephalic setae; longer submedian setae 8  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.5 h.d.), shorter 6.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.4 h.d.). Ocellus 40  $\mu\text{m}$  (2.6 h.d.) from anterior. Amphids situated just posterior to lateral cephalic setae. Buccal cavity small. Cephalic capsule present but not strongly cuticularised and extending anteriorly as three lobes. Excretory pore conspicuous, situated anterior to nerve ring at about 0.13 times oesophagus length. Nerve ring at 0.42 times oesophagus length. Oesophagus widens posteriorly and has the characteristic crenellated outline. Tail short and conico-cylindrical. Caudal glands extend only a short distance anterior to anus.

Ovaries paired, opposed and reflexed. Vulva at 58% of body length.

Although females are sometimes quite abundant, males of *P. albidum* have never been found, but the species seems to be characterised by a combination of the lack of longitudinal striations of the cephalic capsule, cephalic setae length, tail shape and position of ocelli and excretory pore.

**Distribution.** Falmouth (on weed in tide-pool); Plymouth (on seaweed); Northumberland (kelp holdfast); Isles of Scilly (seaweed and kelp holdfast).

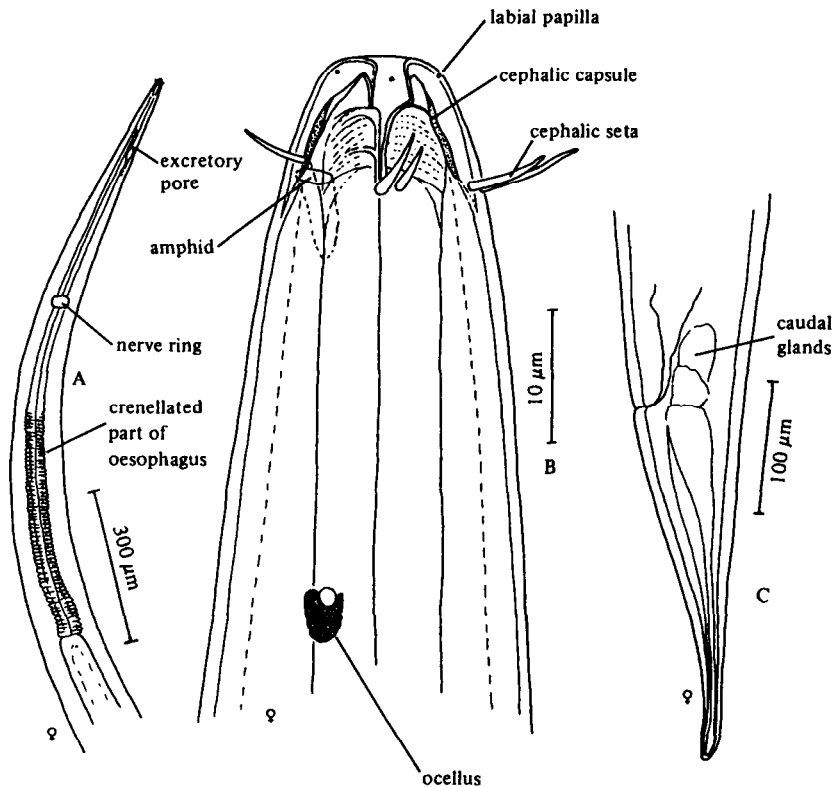


Fig. 68. *Phanoderma albidum*. A, Anterior end; B, Female head; C, Female tail. Original.