

*Araeolaimus elegans* De Man, 1888

(Fig. 4)

*Measurements*

*Males* (5): L=581-870, eso=96-137, hd=5-6, bd=13-21, ad=16-22, mbd=17-26, cs=2-4, amp=7-8 (3-5×4-6), nr=58-81, ep=17-23, ea=23-32, vg=160-235, t=54-81, spic=26-28, a=32.67-42.39, b=5.87-6.94, c=10.74-11.56.

*Females* (5): L=691-1114, eso=101-146, hd=5-6, bd=16-22, vd=18-26, ad=13-18, mbd=22-27, cs=3-4, amp=6-11 (3-4×4-5), nr=63-91, ep=-, ea=24-31, vg=166-251, t=62-99, v=350-412, a=28.28-42.04, b=6.49-7.63, c=10.59-11.71, V=49.8-51.8.

Body slender, short and cylindrical; cuticle finely striated and with short setae sparsely arranged, in cervical region and male tail in a particular way.

Head (Fig. 4-1) narrowed and mouth opening anteriorly, lips and labial papillae indistinct. Buccal cavity narrow and distinct, about one head diameter long. Four cephalic setae at anterior 0.5 head diameters length. Amphids sausage-shaped, at short distance behind the buccal cavity, 1.0-1.8 head diameter from anterior end and about 38% of corresponding body diameter in width. Ocelli at 4.3-5.2 head diameters long from anterior. Esophagus slender and with the median bulvar swelling at about one-third of esophagus. Nerve ring wide and at 61% of the esophagus from anterior end. Excretory pore opening between amphids and ocelli; but more or less indistinct; ampulla near the ocelli and ventral gland cell large, at 168% of esophagus from anterior. Cervical setae short, and scattered as a few separate positions (at both sides of amphids, between amphids and ocelli, near anterior and posterior ends of mid-swelling of esophagus, and between mid-swelling and nerve ring). Tail (Fig. 4-2, 3) gradually tapering to a blunt tip and with caudal glands and spinneret; male tail 3.4-3.7 anal diameters long and in female 4.1-5.5.

*Male.* Testes doubling and the posterior short and reflexed; the length from anterior end of testis to the cloaca, 57% of body length. Spicules relatively long, 1.2-1.8 anal diameters and sharply bent. Gubernaculum with apophysis of 8-10  $\mu$  or 0.3-0.4 spicule length but indistinct. Postanal setae arranged in a few rows on the ventral surface of tail but their number not identical with each other.

*Female.* Vulva opening at middle of the body. Ovaries paired, almost equal, opposed and reflexed at about 0.2 body length to anterior and posterior from vulva.

*Remarks.* The present specimens examined well agree with the original description and figures of *Araeolaimus elegans* by De Man (1888) based upon the specimens from the North Sea, though some minor differences are noticed in the detailed structures. Among them, such characteristics as the shorter cephalic setae (less than 4  $\mu$ ) and the somewhat larger proportion of the copulatory apparatus found in the present specimens have not so far been reported. The

arrangement of cervical setae somewhat resembles the Chilean specimens reported by Wieser (1956) rather than those by De Man, and the excretory pore is more posteriorly located as in *Coinonema punctatum* Cobb, 1920 from Florida, synonymized with *Araeolaimus elegans* by Gerlach (1953), according to the Bremerhaven Checklist of Aquatic Nematodes (Gerlach and Riemann, 1973).

*Material studied.* Five males and five females. 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ (9-IX-1975), 4 ♂ ♂ and 4 ♀ ♀ (26-IX-1975): Oshoro, on *Sargassum* in the subtidal zone (Kito leg.).

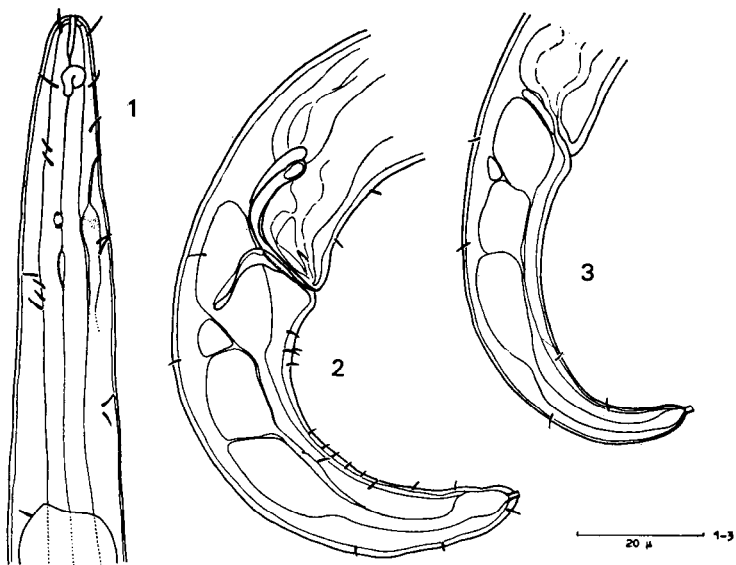


Fig. 4. *Araeolaimus elegans* De Man, 1888. 1. anterior end of male; 2. posterior end; 3. posterior end of female.