Comesa cuanensis (Platt, 1982) (Fig. 102)

Description. Body length 0.8-1.1 mm. Maximum diameter 17-22 μm (a = 37-64). Cuticle with transverse rows of fine dots, rows more numerous in oesophageal region of males than females, but in the latter become more numerous posterior to the oesophageal region: without lateral differentiation. Small lateral cuticle pores throughout the body, regularly spaced but difficult to detect except in head and tail regions. Six 1.5-2.5 μ m and four 4-5 μ m (0.3-0.4 h.d.) cephalic setae. Dorso-sublateral subcephalic setae situated posterior to each amphid (Fig. 102E). Short stout sublateral somatic setae throughout body. Amphids in male of 4 turns, $7.5-8 \mu m$ (0.6 c.d.), in female of 3 turns, 6-6.5 μ m (0.5 c.d.): middle of amphids situated behind posterior cephalic setae. Buccal cavity wide; a pointed dorsal tooth and subventral ridges. Tail 3.8-5.5 a.b.d. with characteristic ventral bend at tip (Fig. 102 I-N).

Spicules 19–21 μ m (about 1 a.b.d.). 8–10 precloacal supplements.

Distribution. Strangford Lough, North East England (intertidal sand).

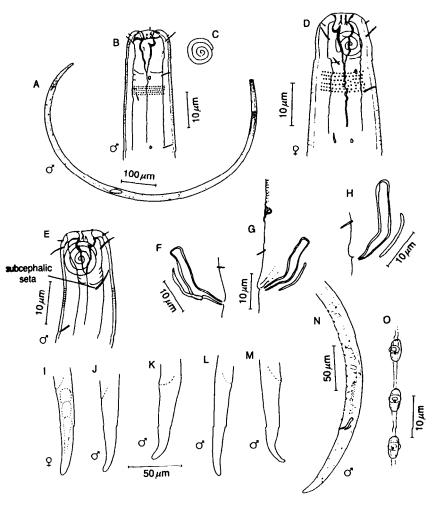


Fig. 102. Comesa cuanensis. A, Entire male; B, Male head; C, Male amphid; D, Female head; E, Male head; F-H, Cloacal regions of three different specimens; I-N, Tails of six different specimens; O, Ventral view of precloacal supplements.

Original.