

Comesa vitia (Warwick, 1971)
(Fig. 100)

Description. Body length 0.7–0.8 mm. Maximum diameter 27–30 μm ($a = 23$ –29). Cuticle punctated, with lateral differentiation of fewer rows of larger dots beginning posterior to oesophageal region. Lateral cuticle pores are most numerous in the posterior oesophageal region, and throughout the rest of the body are found in groups of two, three or occasionally four (Fig. 100A). Six 1 μm and four 2 μm (0.2–0.3 h.d.) cephalic setae. Subcephalic setae situated dorso-sublateral to each amphid (Fig. 100B). Amphids in male 3.25 turns, 6–6.5 μm (0.5 c.d.) wide, anterior border level with posterior cephalic setae. Buccal cavity deep, posterior portion conical, medium sized dorsal tooth and subventral ridges. Tail 2.8 a.b.d.

Spicules 17.5–19 μm (0.8 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, weakly cephalate proximally, with an angular inflection between the proximal and distal portions (Fig. 100A); a pronounced ventral kink just proximal to the inflection. 10–12 (usually 11) precloacal supplements.

Distribution. Northumberland coast, North East England (sublittoral silt).

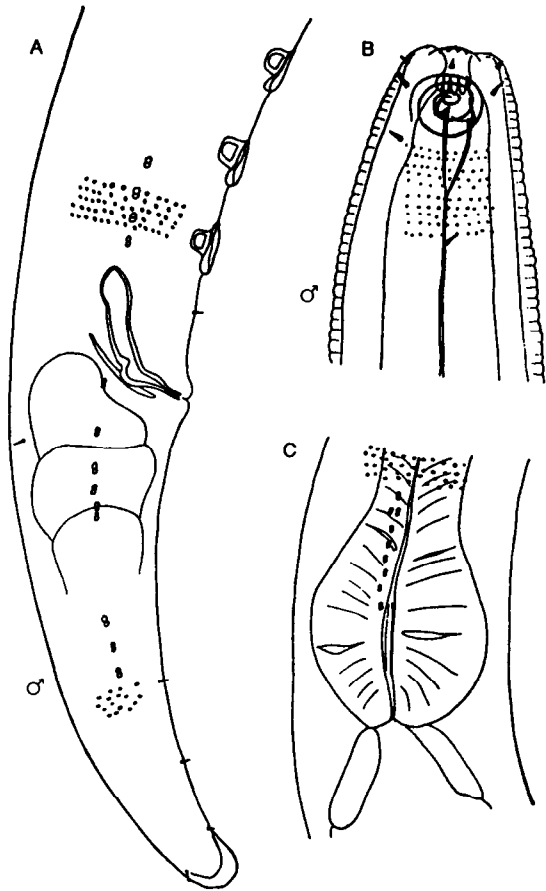


Fig. 100. *Comesa vitia*. A, Male tail; B, Male head; C, Region of oesophageal bulb. Original.