

*Dichromadora cephalata* (Steiner, 1916)  
(Fig. 68)

**Description.** Body length 0.9–1.0 mm. Maximum diameter 38–48  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 21\text{--}26$ ). Two longitudinal files of large cuticle dots about 3.5  $\mu\text{m}$  apart mid-body; forwardly directed lateral plates between these punctations in anterior and posterior regions of body (Fig. 68F, H), replaced by simple transverse bars in middle region (Fig. 68G). Lateral dots flanked by transverse rows of punctations which are relatively large and rounded down the first third of the oesophagus region, becoming elongate until a short distance behind the base of the oesophagus where they become small and rounded. Six short and four longer 7–8  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.5 h.d.) cephalic setae. Four files of slender setae down body length, more numerous in cervical and caudal regions. Buccal cavity with large hollow triangular dorsal tooth and two much smaller sub-ventral teeth (Fig. 68B). Amphids 7  $\mu\text{m}$  wide, transverse slits between bases of cephalic setae. Oesophagus has oval posterior bulb with plasmatic interruptions (Fig. 68E). Tail 3.6–4.4 a.b.d. in male, 4.3–6.0 a.b.d. in female, tapering throughout; spinneret set-off.

Spicules 44  $\mu\text{m}$  (1.4–1.6 a.b.d.) measured as a curve, cephalate but weakly cuticularised proximally with a central lamella along part of the length distally and again for a short distance near the proximal tip; delicate ventral ala. Gubernaculum 25–28  $\mu\text{m}$ , paired crescentic structures with a complex lateral swelling about half way along its length (Fig. 68D). Seven cup-shaped precloacal supplements.

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

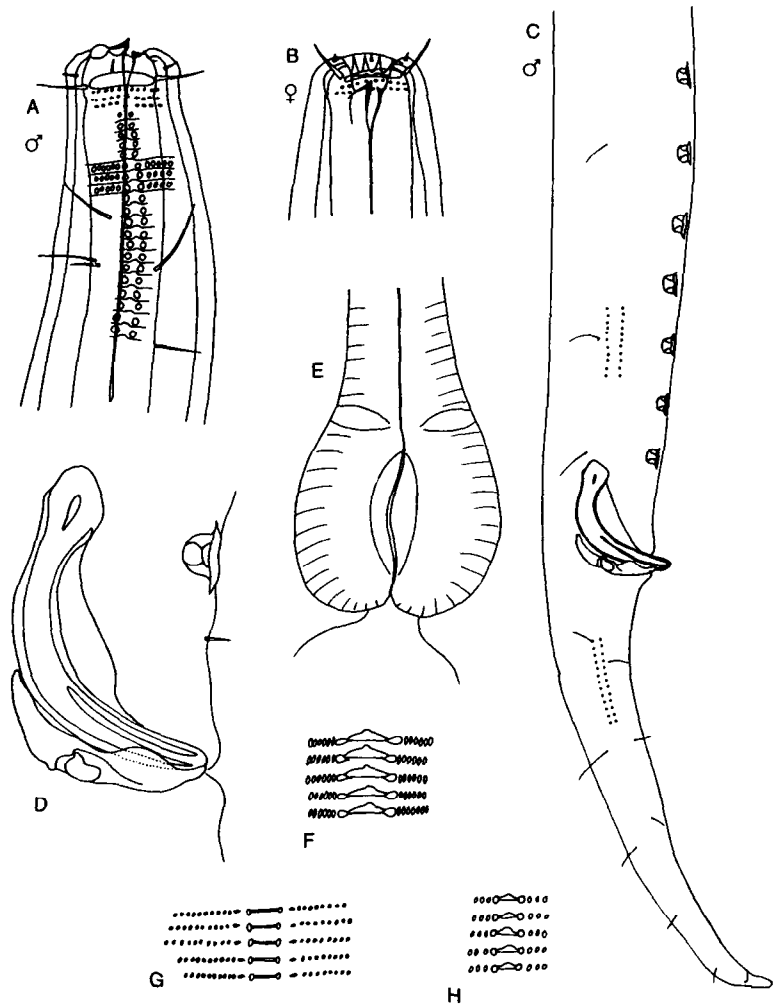


Fig. 68. *Dichromadora cephalata*. A, Male head; B, Female head; C, Posterior end of male; D, Cloacal region; E, Oesophageal bulb; F-H, Lateral cuticle pattern at base of oesophagus (F), mid-body (G), cloacal region (H). Original.