

*Monoposthia costata* (Bastian, 1865)

(Fig. 190)

**Description.** Body length 1.3–2.1 mm. Maximum diameter 52–68  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $a = 24\text{--}31$ ). Cuticle with 10–12 longitudinal files of V-shaped markings which point backwards on the anterior part of the body but reverse direction a short distance posterior to the base of the oesophagus (Fig. 190H). Labial and anterior six cephalic sensilla small and papilliform. Four longer cephalic setae 9–15  $\mu\text{m}$  (0.4–0.7 h.d.). Somatic setae short, in four files down the body length. Amphids 3–5  $\mu\text{m}$  (about 0.15 c.d.) wide, situated level with the second or third cuticle annule. Dorsal buccal tooth opposed by small ventral projections. Oesophagus with an anterior swelling around the buccal cavity and an elongated posterior bulb 56–67  $\mu\text{m}$  long and 30–35  $\mu\text{m}$  wide (Fig. 190B). Tail 3.5–4.0 a.b.d. with unstriated tip (Fig. 190C, F).

Gubernaculum 37–42  $\mu\text{m}$  (about 1.0 a.b.d.), hooked distally and swollen in the middle (Fig. 190D). Supplements absent but with a thickened area of ventral cuticle about one tail length anterior to cloaca (not figured).

Vulva at 81–86% of body length.

**Distribution.** Plymouth, South West England (intertidal seaweeds); North East coast of England (kelp holdfasts); Isles of Scilly (intertidal sand and seaweeds); Falmouth, South West England; Loch Etive, West Scotland (sublittoral mud); Blyth estuary, North East England; Skippers Island, Essex (intertidal mud); Strangford Lough, North East England; Loch Ewe, West Scotland; Exe estuary, South West England (intertidal sand).

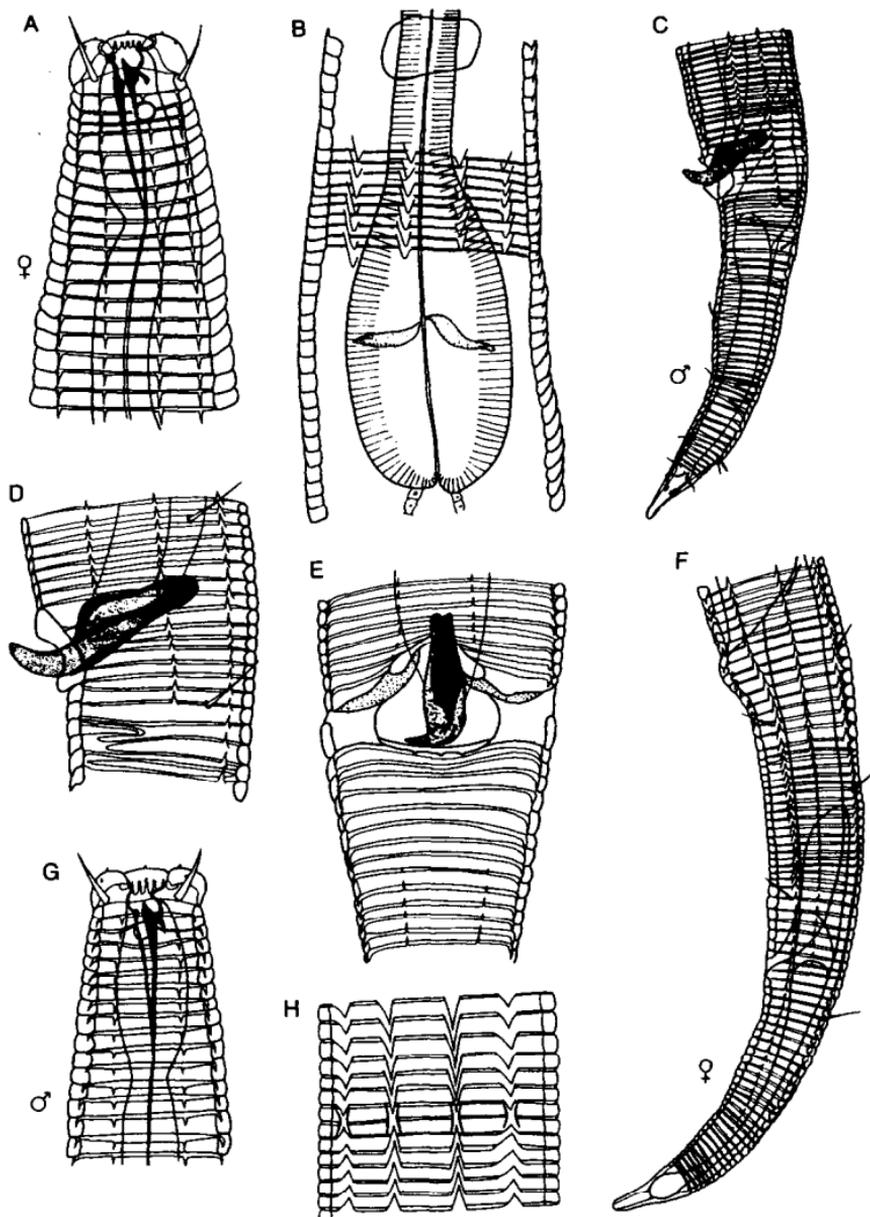


Fig. 190. *Monoposthia costata*. A, Female head; B, Region of oesophageal bulb; C, Male tail; D, Cloacal region; E, Cloacal region, ventral view; F, Female tail; G, Male head; H, Cuticle pattern at point of reversal. Original.