

Nudora nuda sp. nov.

(Fig. 25-28)

MATERIAL STUDIED.

3 ♂♂. 8/12/61 A. B.M. (N.H.), Reg. Nos. 1965. 1073-1075.

3 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ (very poor condition) 7/12/61.

| A | B | C | Body Length (mm.) |
|-------|------|-------|----------------------|
| 38.29 | 8.05 | 15.54 | 1.57 |
| 45.55 | 8.69 | 16.02 | 1.73 |
| 45.50 | 8.63 | 15.55 | 1.82 |

MEASUREMENTS (in mm., in order of body lengths).

Body breadth: 0.041; 0.038; 0.040. Oesophagus length: 0.195; 0.199; 0.211; Diameter of head; 0.019; 0.017; 0.018. Dimensions of amphid (length × breadth): 0.007 × 0.008; 0.007 × 0.007; 0.007 × 0.008. Length of cephalic setae: 0.013; 0.014; 0.014. Length of spicules: 0.034; 0.032; 0.029. Length of gubernaculum: 0.034; 0.030; 0.029. Length of tail: 0.101; 0.108; 0.117.

The cuticle is typical with the large amphids lying largely in the second annule, which is wide, and bounded anteriorly by the narrow first annule. In at least one specimen an annule occurs between the first and large second which does not extend above or below the amphid. Ten files of spines are present at the anterior end of the body (fig. 25) of which the most lateral pairs disappear about the

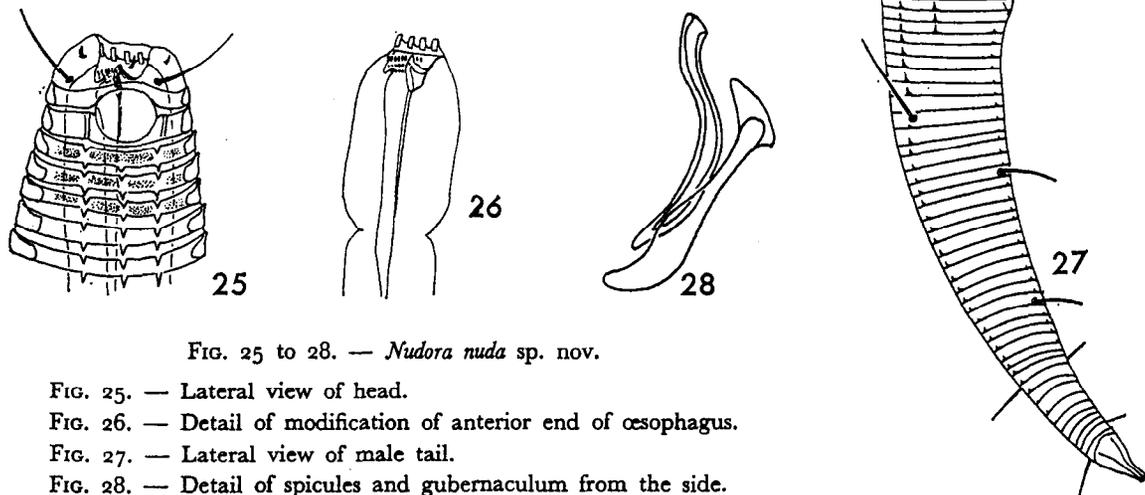


FIG. 25 to 28. — *Nudora nuda* sp. nov.

FIG. 25. — Lateral view of head.

FIG. 26. — Detail of modification of anterior end of oesophagus.

FIG. 27. — Lateral view of male tail.

FIG. 28. — Detail of spicules and gubernaculum from the side.

level of the mid-point of the oesophagus. In addition the spines become markedly smaller at about the same level. Near the posterior end of the oesophagus the number of files increases again so that there are about 12-16 files over most of the length of the body. The annules at the anterior end of the body, over the same level as the large spines, are slightly "hollow" in appearance (see INGLIS, 1964 a). The spines are directed posteriorly on the anterior end of the body and anteriorly on the posterior end of the body. The change over occurs about one

quarter of the body length posterior to the anterior end (body length/distance of level of change from anterior end = 0.395; 0.409; 0.401).

The outer circle of cephalic sense organs is composed of four long setae while the six members of the intermediate circle are short and rather stout. The oesophagus is swollen posteriorly into the usual elongate bulb which is divided into two parts while anteriorly there is a distinctly set-off oesophastome (terminology of INGLIS, 1966). The anterior end of the oesophastome bears the usual large dorsal onchium and three ventral transverse rows of denticles of which the most anterior is more prominent than the other two (fig. 26).

Male. — The spicules are slim, equal in length and identical in structure with a characteristic open S-shape (fig. 28). The gubernaculum is about the same length as the spicules and has a marked cuticular sheet-like expansion at the proximal end of each lateral piece (fig. 28). There are no pre-cloacal zones of modification of the cuticle, but there are two files of long, stout setae (about 0.013 mm. long) anterior to the cloacal opening and two or three pairs of similar, although shorter, setae on the ventro-lateral surface of the tail (fig. 27).

Female. — The female reproductive system appears to be single, as is typical, and the vulvar opening, which lies close to the anus, is not covered by a flap.

DISCUSSION.

This species is similar to *N. lineata* Cobb, 1920, *N. armillata* Wieser, 1959 and *N. omercooperi* Inglis 1965 in the amphid occurring in the second annule of the cuticle but differs from the first and last in lacking any pre-cloacal modifications to the ventral surface of the males and from the second in the simple form of the anterior annules. It further differs from all three in the very large size of the amphids and from the last two in the short intermediate circle of sense organs.

The genera *Nudora* and *Monoposthia* appear to differ in the level at which the spines reverse on the cuticle. This occurs near the posterior end of the oesophagus in the first genus (see also COBB, 1920) and about the middle of the body in *Monoposthia*.