

PLATYCOMOPSIS PARACOBBI n.sp.

(Fig. 16, a-c.)

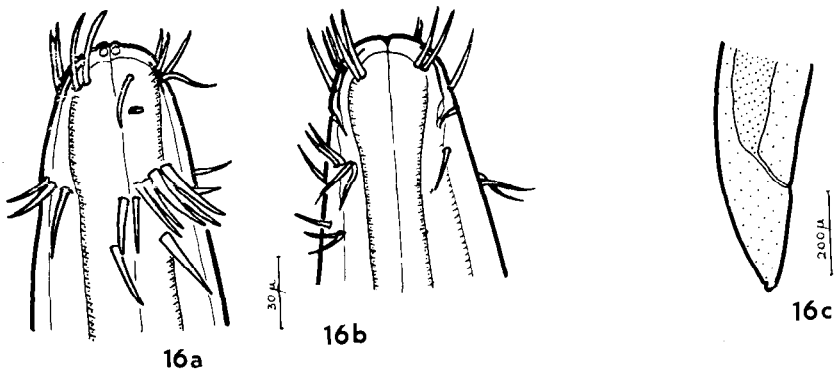
Stations : 39, 42.

Female (1x) : L = 16 mm. ; α = 64 ; β = 7.3 ; γ = 59.2 ; V = 62.5%.

Juv. (2x) : L = 8.9-11.3 mm. ; α = 37-54 ; β = 5.2-6.3 ; γ = 60-56.6.

The cuticle is finely annulated. The cephalic setae are about 30μ long, $3/4-3/5$ of the head diameter. The amphids lie 30μ from the anterior end, twice as far as do the cephalic setae; their diameter is $1/9-1/10$ of the cephalic diameter. A slight helmet, a subcuticular thickening seen only in profile, is present.

The female genitalia is paired and recurved. No ripe eggs are present. The female tail (and that of juvenile) is conical and rounded at the tip. Its length is 0.27 mm. the anal diameter 0.15 mm. in the female, and 0.15-0.2 mm. long, 0.15-0.14 mm. anal diameter in the juveniles. The species is closest to *P. cobbi* Ditl. from which it differs in having shorter cephalic setae, narrower amphid and a rounded tip to the tail, as well as in α , β and γ values. *P. cobbi* is known only by male specimens and the present species only by females, so it is not impossible that they are conspecific as sexual dimorphism does not occur in the genus in regard to the characters of amphid width and length of setae. The distinct difference in α , β and γ values, however, cannot be disregarded.



16. *P. paracobbi* : (a) lateral, and (b) ventral views of head, to same scale ; (c) tail of female.

STATION 39 : 66° 10' S., 49° 41' E., T M L : 300 m.

Big haul characterized by silicious sponges with glass rope spicules. *Synapta*—like Holothurian common ; many Polyzoa of different species.

STATION 42 : 65° 50' S., 54° 23' E., T M L : 220 m.

Haul essentially as at Station 41, T M L.