

Rhabdocoma riemanni Jayasree and Warwick, 1977
(Fig. 133)

Description. Body length 3.3–3.9 mm. Maximum diameter 34–40 μm ($a = 91$ –99). Cuticle smooth. Head bears three lips each having two small labial papillae 1 μm long. Buccal cavity very small, 3.5 μm deep and conical in shape. Six cephalic setae, 12–15 μm long, three-jointed. Four submedian cervical setae, 8 μm long, present just anterior to the amphids. Amphids circular in outline, but appear to be deeper and layered dorsally, 9 μm diameter (0.42 times c.d.), situated 25–28 μm behind anterior end. Oesophageal bulb absent. Tail very long and filamentous and constitutes approximately one-fifth to two-fifths of the total body length, 660–1370 μm (22–46 a.b.d.) long in males and 855–1340 μm (26–40 a.b.d.) long in females.

Spicules paired, equal, 31 μm long, slightly cephalated proximally and pointed distally. A prominent median ridge present in both spicules.

Gubernaculum paired, very narrow, lies parallel to the spicules, 11 μm long. 9–13 precloacal supplements present. These are in the form of small conical papillae each bearing a fine filamentous seta through their centres.

Ovary single and postvulvar. Vulva very narrow and indistinct, at 24–38% of body length.

Distribution. Firth of Clyde (beach sand below mean tide level).

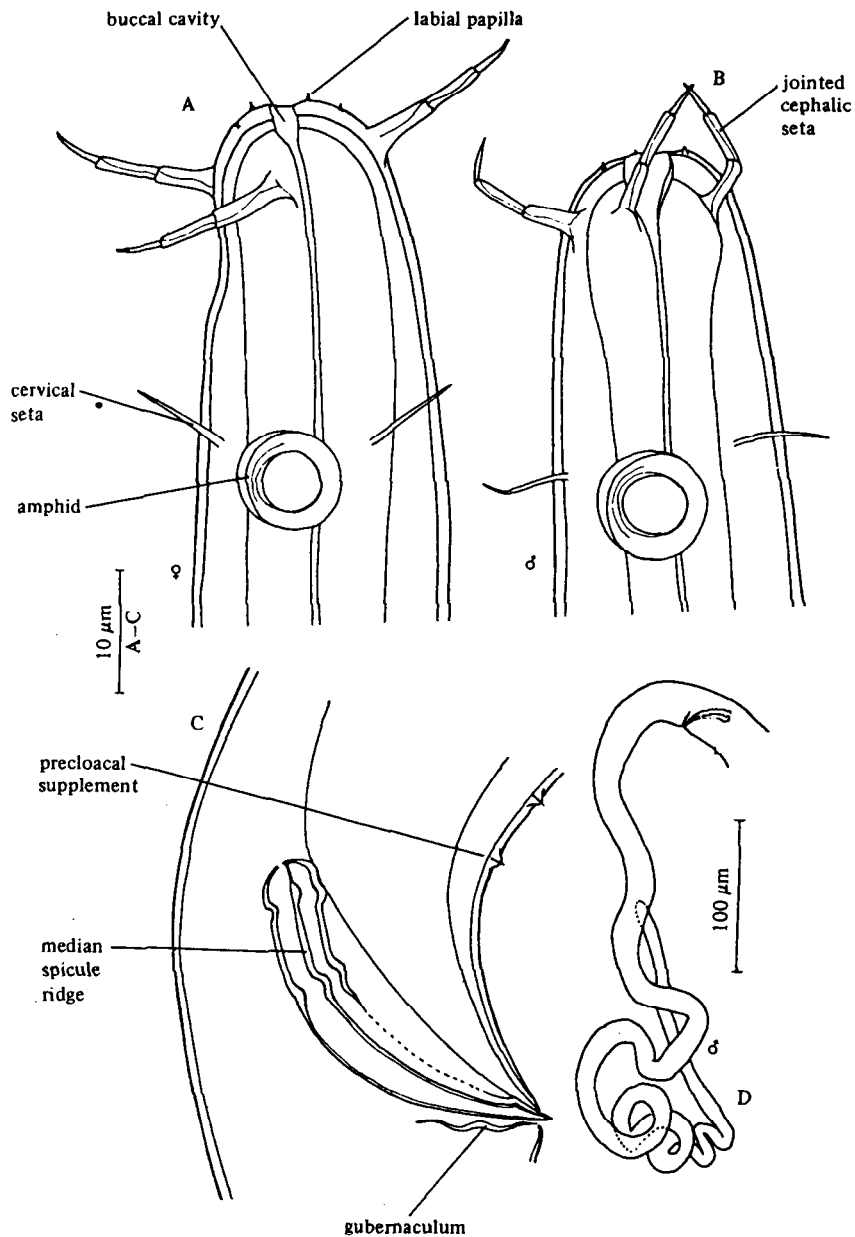


Fig. 133. *Rhabdocoma riemanni*. A, Female head; B, Male head; C, Cloacal region; D, Male tail (from Jayasree and Warwick, 1977).