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SOME SEM DATA ON *NEOCROSSONEMA AQUITANENSE* (FIES, 1968) EBSARY, 1981
(NEMATODA : CRICONEMATIDAE)

Pierre BAUJARD* and Michel LUC**

The use of the SEM in nematological taxonomic research renders now possible the study of external characters which were difficult or even impossible to observe with light microscope. Some of these characters, mainly those related to the lip area, seem to be of primary importance in the Tylenchina for the definition of genera and understanding of relationships at generic and specific levels. So it appears useful to publish any new valuable information obtained from such techniques.

SEM pictures given here are concerning *Neocrossonema aquitanense* (Fies, 1968) Ebsary, 1981. The specimens studied are topotypes, sampled by the senior author; they have been processed following De Grisse's (1974) method, later modified (Baujard, 1978). The SEM used was a CAMECA MEB 07.

Figures 1 A and B show the structure of the anterior end of the female : the dorso-ventral elongated oral aperture is separated by ridges from the amphidial apertures, this whole area being surrounded by a rounded circular ridge formed by the fusion of the anterior part of the six pseudolips; the posterior parts of the pseudolips join separately the first annule giving to the face the appearance of a six-branched star. The first and second annules are of the same diameter, but the edge of the first annule is nearly smooth, whereas the second annule shows regular slight indentations which continue throughout the length of the body.

The Figure 1 C, a ventral view of the female, shows further detail of annular ornamentation, the smooth anterior vulval lip, slightly overlapping the posterior lip, and the position of the anus on the sixth annule posterior to vulva.

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* Laboratoire de Nématologie, O.R.S.T.O.M., B.P. 1386, Dakar, Sénégal.

** Nématologiste de l'O.R.S.T.O.M. Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Laboratoire des Vers, 61, rue de Buffon, 75005 Paris, France.

The Figure 1 D, a lateral view of the anterior end of a male, shows the annulation nearly terminal, the continuous profile of the lip area, and the rather anterior beginning of the lateral field, which at that level comprises only one band (two lines).

The Figure 1 E, a lateral view of the posterior part of the male, shows the absence of bursa (contrary to the original description) and structure of the lateral field which comprised two bands, in some places slightly separated, finally reaching the tail extremity.

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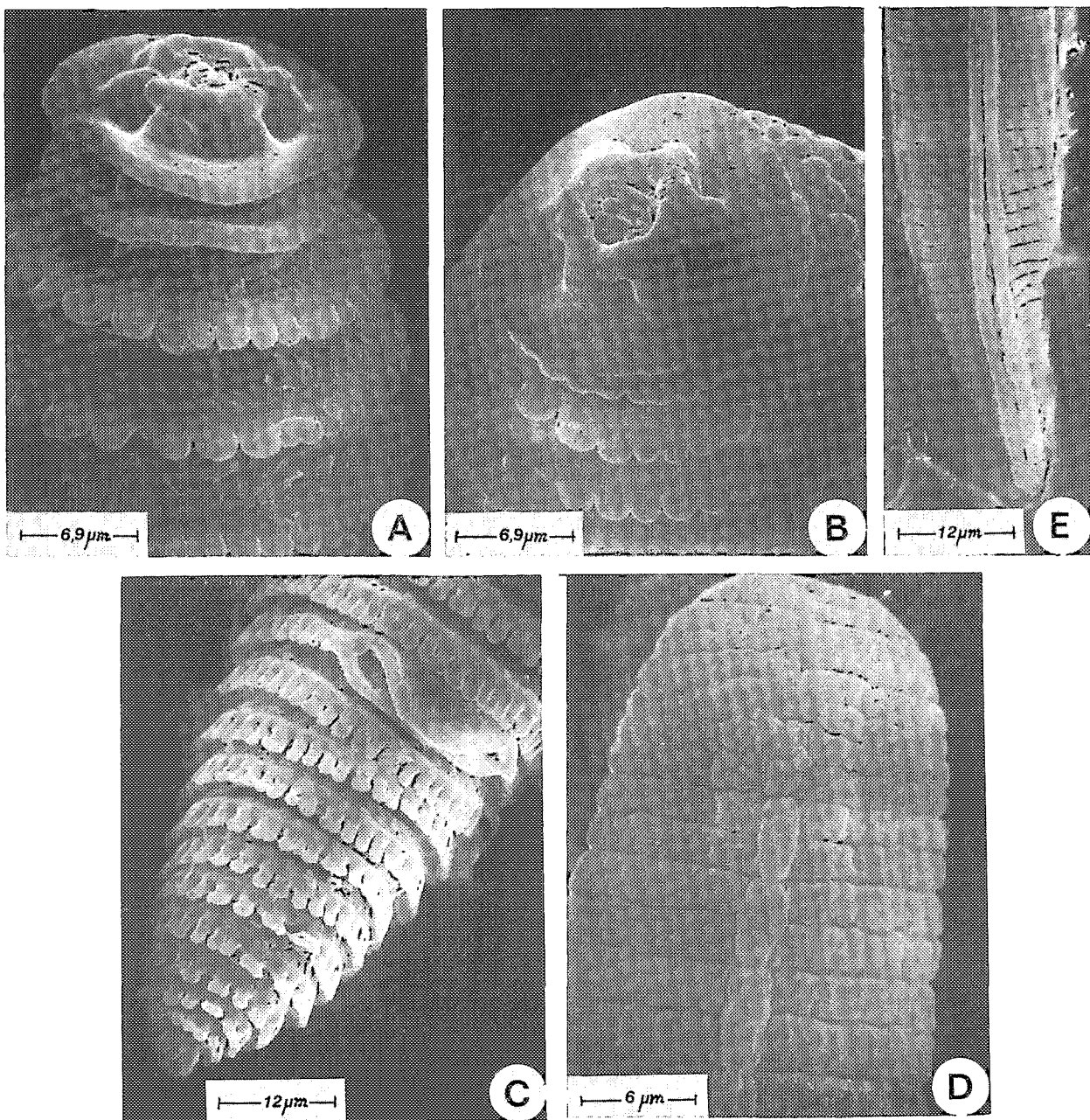


Fig. 1. *Neocrossonema aquitanense* (Fies, 1968) Ebsary, 1981. SEM pictures. A. Female; anterior end (lateral view, slightly tilted face). B. Female; anterior end (face view). C. Female, posterior end (ventral view). D. Male; anterior end (lateral view). E. Male. Anterior part (lateral view).