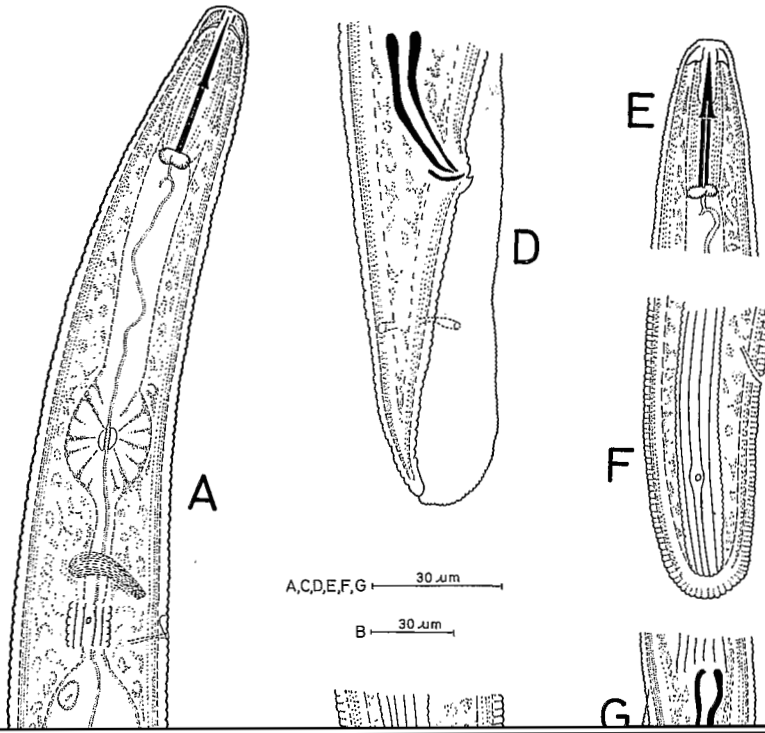


*Amplimerlinius hornensis* sp. n. (Nematoda : Merliniinae)



to anus. Caudalids distinct, located in the anterior 1/3 to middle of tail.

*Male* : Body open C shaped, lateral fields about 1/3 of body width. Lip region hemispherical with seven annules. Cephalic framework heavily sclerotized. Testis single, outstretched, spicules slightly curved, cephalated, gubernaculum plain, hypoptygma prominent. Bursa distinctive in shape, enveloping the elongate conoid tail completely. Phasmids extending into the bursa.

TYPE HABITAT AND LOCALITY

This new species is close to *A. amplus* Siddiqi, 1976; *A. macrurus* (Goodey, 1932) Siddiqi, 1976; *A. icarus* (Wallace & Greet, 1964) Siddiqi, 1976; *A. nectolineatus* Siddiqi, 1976 and *A. siddiqii* Mancini, Cotroneo & Moretti, 1982. From *A. amplus* it differs in the possession of a shorter and stouter body, a longer tail and lesser c' value. From *A. macrurus* it can be differentiated by its longer body and lesser c' value while from *A. icarus* it differs in having a longer tail and much shorter stylet and spicules. With *A. nectolineatus* the differences are apparent in "a" and V values and number of lip annules (12 in *A. nectolineatus* vs. 7 in *A. hornensis*).

#### DESCRIPTION

Body ventrally arcuate, almost cylindrical. Lateral field with outer incisures crenate, inner ones sometimes broken. Deirid near level of excretory pore. Lip region hemispherical, with six to seven annules. Cephalic framework heavily sclerotized. Stylet knobs rounded and well developed. Hemizonid three annules across, anterior to excretory pore. Vulva with inconspicuous epitygma. Tail cylindrical with hemispherical annulated terminus.

These specimens were recovered from soil around roots of *Euphorbia nicaensis* All. in Torremocha del Campo in Guadalajara province. The soil was characterised by a clay texture, organic matter content of 3.0 % and pH 8.0. This species is being recorded for the first time outside its type locality.

#### The genus *Amplimerlinius* Siddiqi, 1976

Siddiqi (1976) proposed the genus *Amplimerlinius* and included the species *A. amplus* Siddiqi, 1976; *A. clavicaudatus* (Choi & Geraert, 1975); *A. icarus* (Wallace & Greet, 1964); *A. intermedius* (Bravo, 1976); *A. macrurus* (Goodey, 1932); *A. magnicauda* (Thorne, 1935); *A. socialis* (Andrássy, 1976); *A. viciae* (Saltuko-

glu, 1973) and *A. nectolineatus* Siddiqi, 1976 in it. Subsequently, *A. siddiqii* Mancini, Cotroneo & Moretti, 1982; *A. dubius* (Steiner, 1914) Siddiqi & Klingler, 1980; *A. globigerus* Siddiqi, 1979; *A. umbonatus*, Ivanova, 1982 and *A. omentelus* Kleyhans & Heyns, 1983 were added to it. However, Baldwin, Luc and Bell (1983) shifted *A. magnicauda* to the genus *Pratylenchoides*. Given above is a diagnostic table for the fourteen species presently included in the genus *Amplimerlinius* (Tab. 1).

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