

Polenchus curvicauda sp. n., second species of a rare genus (Nemata : Tylenchidae)

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SUMMARY

Polenchus curvicauda sp. n. differs from *P. politus* Andrassy, 1980 by the short basal oesophageal bulb and the curved tail (elongated bulb and straight tail in *P. politus*). The genus *Polenchus* Andrassy, 1980 resembles most *Tylenchus* but differs by cuticular and lip area structures.

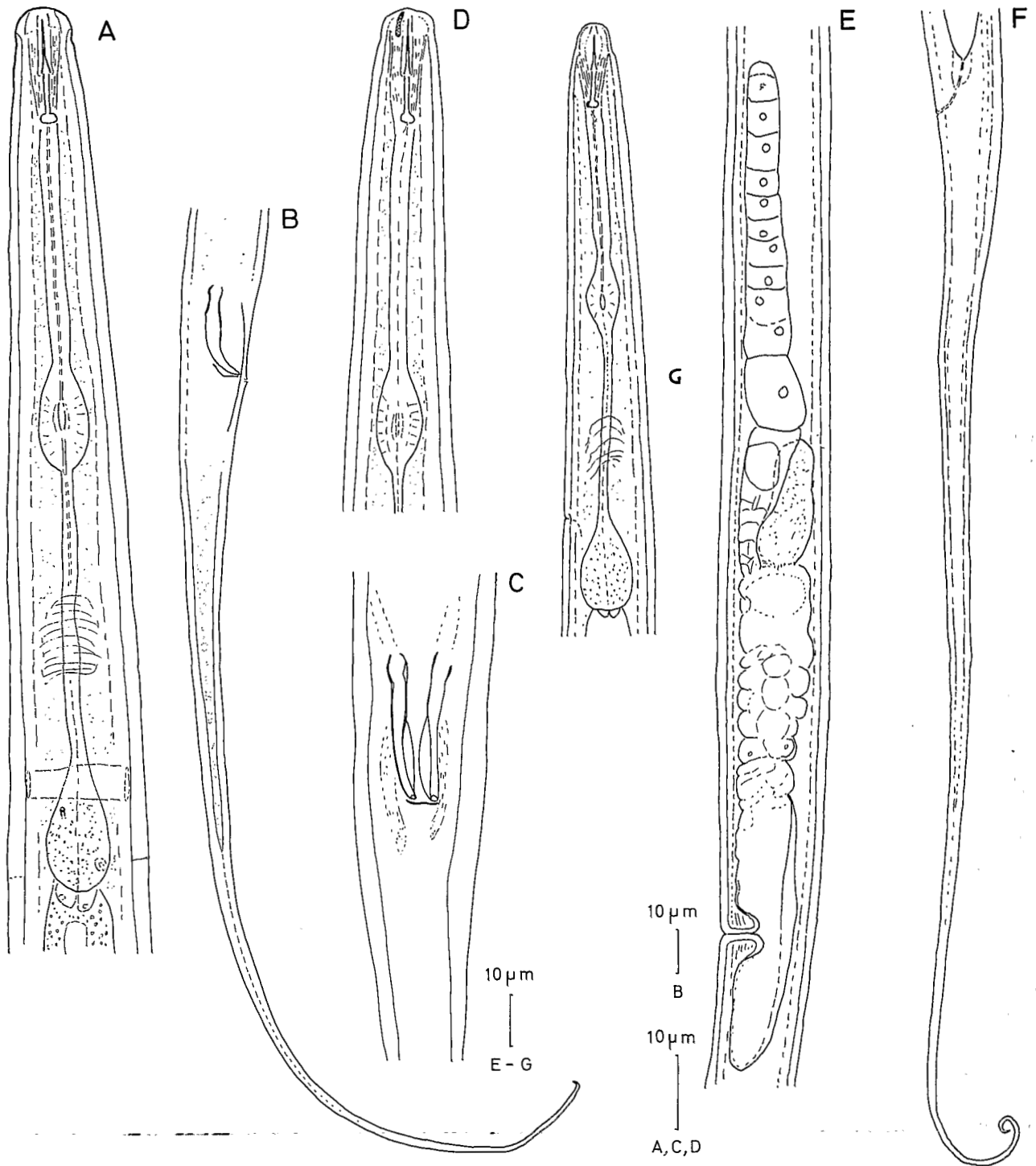


Fig. 1. *Polenchus curvicauda* sp. n. — A-D : Male. A : Anterior end in dorso-ventral view; B : Tail in lateral view; C : Spicular region in ventral view; D : Anterior end, nearly lateral view (amphid aperture indicated) — E-G : Female. E : Reproductive system; F : Tail; G : Anterior end.

Both female and male tail elongated, filiform with curved ending (ventrally in the male and dorsally in the female and the two juveniles)

TYPE SPECIMENS

Collected on 19 January 1983 by D. J. Raski. Holotype, female deposited on slide number 2270 in University of California Nematode Collection (UCNC), Davis, California. Paratype, male, on slide 860 in the Collection of the Instituut voor Dierkunde, Ghent University, Belgium. Two juveniles deposited in UCNC.

TYPE HABITAT AND LOCALITY

Moist, freshwater soil under thick tundra at Orange Bay, Hoste Island, Chile.

DIAGNOSIS AND RELATIONSHIPS

Polenchus curvicauda sp. n. is the second species of the genus *Polenchus* and it has much in common with

P. politus Andrassy, 1980. But in *P. politus* the head is not offset, tail is straight and oesophageal terminal bulb is elongated.

The presence of a very faint annulation in *P. curvicauda* sp. n. weakens the position of *Polenchus* as a separate genus. Because of the large body, the large robust stylet with two equal parts and the curved tail of the new species, *Polenchus* is most closely related to *Tylenchus*. The thick and almost smooth cuticle and the weakly developed caudal alae are characters not found in *Tylenchus*; the head structure may provide further differences (in *Tylenchus* the amphids seem to be more confined to the anterior end; in *Polenchus* the longitudinal slits are at the lateral side of the head) but more species must be studied.

REFERENCES

- ANDRÁSSY, I. (1980). The genera and species of the family Tylenchidae Örley, 1880 (Nematoda). The genera *Aglenchus* (Andrassy, 1954) Meyl, 1961, *Miculenchus* Andrassy, 1959 and *Polenchus* gen. n. *Acta zool. hung.*, 26 : 1-20.

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