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***Oxystomina elongata* (Bütschli, 1874) a new record of free-living marine nematode from the Canary Islands**

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RESUMEN: La especie *Oxystomina elongata* (Bütschli, 1874) se registra por primera vez para el Archipiélago Canario. Se realiza una descripción y se relacionan los datos merísticos de esta especie. Además, se analizan las diferencias de caracteres taxonómicos entre ejemplares de otras áreas geográficas. Palabras clave: Nematodos, *Oxystomina elongata*, vida libre, fondos arenosos, islas Canarias.

ABSTRACT: The species *Oxystomina elongata* (Bütschli, 1874) is recorded for the first time from the Canary Islands. Description and meristic data are reported. Moreover, geographical differences among different specimens are discussed.

Key words: Nematodes, *Oxystomina elongata*, free-living, soft-bottoms, Canary Islands

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921 is characterized by having an amphid wider than long, located in the anterior half of the head. Buccal cavity absent. Inner labial setae lacking and outer labial setae sometimes inconspicuous, within this genus there are also species with papilliform cephalic sensilla. Tail cylindrical and swollen tip. Males with one anterior testis, and females with one reflexed and posterior ovary.

This genus can be separated in two groups (Wieser, 1953), the first one with tail short and uniformly cylindrical or conical, and the second one with tail long, attenuated, conical

in the anterior part and cylindrical in the posterior. Posteriorly, several changes were made by Gerlach & Riemann (1973, 1974) in the subfamily Oxystomininae: The genus *Adorus* Cobb *in* Thorne, 1939 were considered a junior synonym of *Oxystomina* because it fully resembles the genus *Oxystomina* in the pharyngeal position of the cervical gland, in the caudal glands extension into the precaudal region and the structure of the buccal cavity.

The material was collected during an ecological study of the intertidal and shallow-subtidal soft-bottoms of two stations on the south coast of Tenerife (Los Abrigos del Porís and Los Cristianos) (Riera, 2004).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Samples were collected in shallow-subtidal soft-bottoms of Los Abrigos (SE Tenerife). PVC cores of 4.5 cm of inner diameter were taken to a depth of 30 cm in sediment. These samples were fixed with 10% formaldehyde in seawater for one day and decanted through a sieve of 63 μm mesh size, and posteriorly preserved in 70% ethanol. Specimens were mounted in glycerine gel and drawings of these were done using a camera lucida on a Leica DMLB microscope equipped with Nomarski interference contrast. All measurements are in micrometers and curves structures are measured along the arc.

Abbreviations used in the text are: a, body length divided by maximum body diameter; b, body length divided by pharyngeal length; c, body length divided by tail length; c', tail length divided by anal body diameter; cbd, corresponding body diameter; s', spicule length divided by anal body diameter; %V, position of vulva as a percentage of body length from anterior.

DESCRIPTION

Phylum NEMATODA

Order ENOPLIDA Chitwood, 1933

Family OXYSTOMINIDAE Filipjev, 1918

Genus *Oxystomina* Filipjev, 1921

Oxystomina elongata (Bütschli, 1874)

Oxystoma elongatum Bütschli (1874): 34, fig. 18 a-d.

Oxystomina elongata.- Filipjev (1922): 190, fig. 1 a, b; Lorenzen (1969): 232, fig. 30 a-f.

Material examined.- Tenerife, Playa de Los Abrigos: subtidal (AS), april 2001 1 specimen.

Meristic data.- 1 male (σ).

Description.- *Male*: Body slender, very narrow (32 μm), tapering towards both ends. Head round and not set off. Cuticle smooth. Amphids are 43% of the corresponding body diameter, wider than long and situated 31 μm from the anterior end. Buccal cavity absent. Inner labial setae lacking and outer labial setae inconspicuous. 4 cephalic setae 3 μm long, located in the anterior half of the head. Subcephalic setae difficult to discern. Pharynx slender and cylindrical. Ventral gland and nerve ring difficult to discern.

The reproductive system is monorchic with one anterior testis. Spicules paired, equal and curved, 1.3 anal diameters long. Gubernaculum 0.5 anal diameters long, without apophysis. Precloacal seta 5 µm long, situated at 18 µm from the cloaca. Tail 5 anal diameters long, elongated and cylindrical with swollen tip. Caudal setae lacking. Spinneret developed. Females not found.

Discussion.- *Oxystomina elongata* is characterized by having cervical setae as longer as cephalic ones. Cervical setae were not observed in the canarian specimen. Gubernaculum is very variable, cylindrical (Lorenzen, 1969), triangular in the proximal end and “Y” shape in the distal end (Bresslau & Schuurmans-Stekhoven, 1940) or slender and narrow as in the studied specimen.

Ecology.- This species was collected in fine sands ($Q_{50} = 0.18$) with a very good selection ($S_0 = 0.71$). The percentage of organic matter was 0.85%, and carbonates content was 5.47%.

Distribution.- Amphiatlantic (Stekhoven, 1935; Timm, 1952). Mediterranean Sea (Gadea, 1960). This species is first recorded from the Canarian archipelago.

	♂
Total body length	2057.1
a	64
b	11.3
c	19.2
Cephalic diameter	7
Inner labial setae	-
Outer labial setae	-
Cephalic setae	3
Subcephalic setae	-
Buccal cavity diameter	2
Amphid diameter	5.7
Amphid height	12.9
Amphid from anterior	31.4
Pharynx length	182.1
Pharynx cbd	21.4
Maximum body diameter	32.1
Spicule length	27.1
Gubernaculum length	11.4
s'	1.3
Tail length	107.1
Anal body diameter	21.4
c'	5
Spicule length/Tail length	0.3

Table 1. Measurements of *Oxystomina elongata* in µm (De Man's index a. Total body length/maximum body diameter; b Total body length/Pharynx length; c: Total body length/ Tail length; c' Tail length/Anal body diameter).

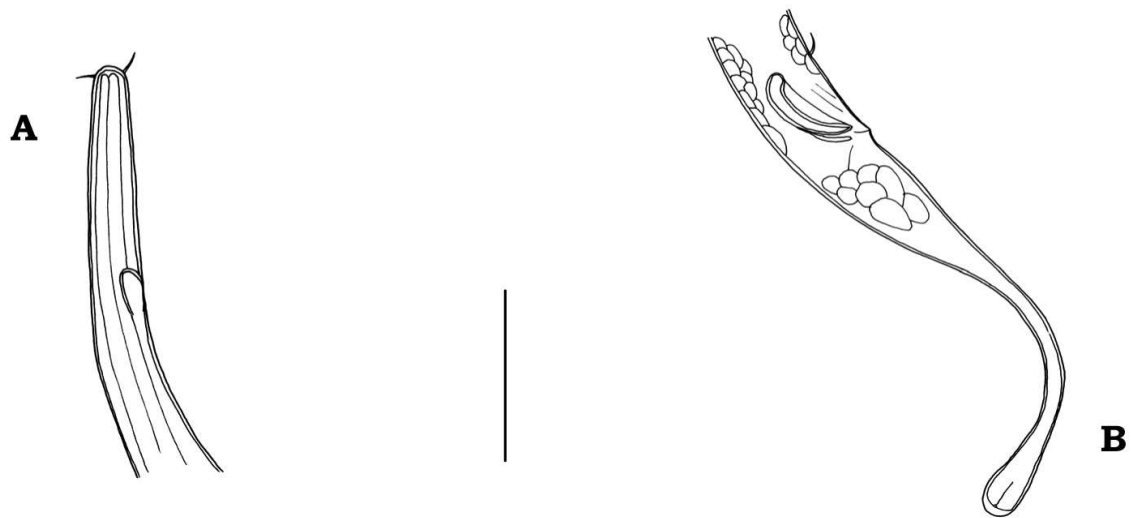


Figure 1.- *Oxystomina elongata*. Male. A. Anterior end. B. Posterior end. Scale A = 22 μ m, B = 26 μ m.

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