A REDEFINITION OF *PSILENCHUS* DE MAN, 1921 AND *TYLENCHUS* SUBGENUS *FILENCHUS* ANDRÁSSY, 1954 WITH THE ERECTION OF *CLAVILENCHUS* N. SUBGENUS UNDER *TYLENCHUS* BASTIAN, 1865

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It is proposed to retain in *Psilenchus* only didelphic species and to place monodelphic species in *Tylenchus*. Basiria sinks again as a synonym of *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*) as proposed by Goodey (1963). Emended diagnoses of *Psilenchus* and *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*) and diagnosis of a new subgenus *Clavilenchus* for *Psilenchus tumidus* are provided.

The genus *Psilenchus* was erected by de Man (1921) for a species of nematode with paired ovaries, spear without knobs, transverse, elliptical amphid apertures, adanal bursa and long filiform tail with clavate terminus. This was distinct from *Tylenchus* Bastian, 1865 which had a single ovary, knobbed spear and filiform tail with an acute terminus. Thorne (1949) described *Psilenchus* more fully and characterized the genus by the elongated, slit-like amphid apertures, slender, frequently clavate tails of both sexes, prominent deirids and phasmids, elongated spear, absence of a sclerotized labial framework and the presence of the median bulb near the middle or posterior to the middle of the esophageal length. He added four new species: *P. striatus*, *P. magnidentus*, *P. gracilis* and *P. aberrans* and brought *Tylenchus clavicaudatus* Micoletzky, 1922 under this genus. Of these species *P. magnidentus*, *P. gracilis* and *P. aberrans* differ from *Tylenchus* mainly in having slit-like amphid apertures.

Hagemeyer & Allen (1952) described two species of *Psilenchus*: *P. duplexus* and *P. terextremus*, the latter close to the didelphic species of *Psilenchus* except for the tail (terminus finely rounded) and the former fitting the definition of *Tylenchus* except that the obscure amphid apertures are about a quarter head-width, located near the lip base. To accommodate *P. duplexus* these authors modified the generic definition to include species in which the median bulb was situated well above the middle of the esophagus. Later, Andrássy (1954) transferred *P. duplexus* to *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*).

R. Siddiqi (1959) described *Basiria* with slit-like amphid apertures, single prodelphic gonad and the orifice of the dorsal esophageal gland three-quarters to one spear length below the spear base. *Basiria* was separated from *Psilenchus* by the character of the dorsal esophageal gland opening and from *Tylenchus* in the same way and the form of the amphidial apertures.
Colbran (1960) described *P. tumidus*, a monodelphic species with distinctly clavate tail. Andrassy (1962 a, b) described two more species: *Psilenchus austuarius*, a didelphic species close to the type species *P. hilarulus* and a monodelphic species, *P. noctiscriptus* differing from *P. magnidens* in possessing a rounded tail terminus. Goodey (1963) retained under *Psilenchus* only those species that were didelphic and had a clavate tail terminus, and placed *P. magnidens*, *P. aberrans* and *P. gracilis* under *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*) as *T. (F.) magnidens*, *T. (F.) neoaberrans* and *T. (F.) neogracilis*. He also synonymized *Basiria* with *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*).

Jairajpuri & A. H. Siddiqi (1963) described *P. neoformis* and R. Siddiqi (1963 a, b) described two new species: *P. hilarus* and *P. minor*. These three species are similar to *P. hilarulus* but have the orifice of their dorsal esophageal gland a half to one spear length below the spear base. Thus the position of the dorsal esophageal gland orifice cannot be used to separate genera and has only specific use. R. Siddiqi (1963 a) disagreed with Goodey (1963) and provided emended diagnoses of *Psilenchus* and *Basiria*. In *Psilenchus* he left only those species that had knobless spears, lateral lips wider than the others and one or two gonads and to *Basiria* he transferred *P. gracilis* and *P. aberrans* which had knobbed spears, lateral lips narrower than the others and only a single gonad. Recently, Andrassy (1963) described *Basiria parvamphidia* and Jairajpuri (1965) *B. kashmirensis* both close to the type *B. graminofibila* and having the orifice of the dorsal esophageal gland half to one spear length below the spear base.

Geraert (1965) shows that amphid apertures are of no generic importance because not only are there variations in shape between species of *Tylenchus* but also these occur within the same species. The size of lateral lips used by R. Siddiqi (1963 a) for differentiating between *Psilenchus* and *Basiria* is also unimportant. Geraert (1965) also showed that the original hexagonal head outline can change through the development of those parts of the lip region where the four cephalic papillae end and also through the size and direction of the amphidial apertures.

Thus the only character that can be relied upon to separate species of *Psilenchus* and *Tylenchus* is the number of gonads. This is a good generic character among members of Tylenchida. It is therefore proposed to retain in *Psilenchus* only didelphic species and place monodelphic species in *Tylenchus*. *Basiria* sinks again as a synonym of *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*) as proposed by Goodey (1963). Emended diagnoses of *Psilenchus* and *Tylenchus* (*Filenchus*) and diagnosis of a new subgenus *Clavilenchus* under *Tylenchus* for *Psilenchus tumidus* are given below.

**GENUS PSILENCHUS DE MAN, 1921**