DESMOSCOLECIDS FROM SALT MARSHES IN WEST GERMANY
(NEMATODA, DESMOSCOLECIDA)

BY

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Additional information is presented on Desmoscolex labiosus Lorenzen, 1969, Pareudesmoscolex laciniosus Lorenzen, 1969 and Calligyrus gerlachi Lorenzen, 1969. For the first time a detailed description is given of the internal organs. A juvenile of D. labiosus, unknown until now, is described.

Fourteen desmoscolecid species are known from brackish soils (see Lorenzen, 1969). They usually occur in small numbers, juveniles are rare and little is known of their morphological variability. The morphology of the internal organs is seldom studied.

This paper deals with the morphology of three species from salt marshes: Desmoscolex labiosus, Pareudesmoscolex laciniosus and Calligyrus gerlachi, all described by Lorenzen (1969).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The desmoscolecids studied were collected at:

1. Sehestedt near Seefeld, Kreis Wesermarsh (UTM grid ME 52); marshy pasture in the nature reserve “Süderkleihörne” at Jade bay, with Gramineae, Salicornia, Armeria maritima, and Aster tripolium; marsh soil; collected 23.VII.1974 (Desmoscolex labiosus, Calligyrus gerlachi).

2. Dagebüll, Kreis Nordfriesland (UTM grid MF 86); marshy pasture outside dike in Osewoldter polder, with Gramineae, Salicornia and Trifolium repens; marsh soil; collected 14.IX.1978 (Pareudesmoscolex laciniosus, P. pratensis and an unidentified desmoscolecid species).

3. Witsum, Föhr island (UTM grid MF 66); salty patch of a pasture within dike, with Gramineae, Aster tripolium and salicornia; marsh soil; collected 15.IX.1978 (D. labiosus, D. vanoyei, D. adenotrichus and C. gerlachi).

*) Request for reprints to Prof. Dr. A. Coomans, Institute of Zoology, Ledeganckstraat 35, 9000 Gent, Belgium.
Nematodes were extracted from soil by sugar flotation, fixed with TAF and transferred to pure glycerin by slow evaporation. Most specimens are deposited in the "Deutsche Nematodensammlung" (DNST), Institut für Nematologie in Münster, West Germany; some are in the Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen, Brussel. Other specimens studied were:

*Pareudesmoscolex pratensis*: holotype and paratypes;

*P. laciniosus*: holotype and paratypes from the Institut für Meeresforschung, Bremerhaven, West Germany.

*Pareudesmoscolex lacustris* and *Pareudesmoscolex* spec. from the Université Claude Bernard, Département de Biologie animale et Zoologie, Lyon, France.

*Pareudesmoscolex verrucosus*: holotype from the Institut für Nematologie in Münster, West Germany.

*Desmoscolex labiosus* Lorenzen, 1969

(Fig. 1)

**Measurements**

Specimens from Sehestedt, Jade bay, site 1:

Males (n = 3): L = 260-280, hd = 12-15 x 9.5-11, cs = 13, sd1 = 12-14, sd3 = 12, sd7 = 11-13, sd11(12) = 11-13, sd15(16) = 11-12, sd21(22) = 11-12, sd26(27 or 29) = 11-13, sd32(33 or 34) = 14-16, sd33(34 or 36) = 24-26, sv2 = 9.5-11, sv3 = 7.5-8.5, sv9 = 8.5-9.5, sv12(13 or 14) = 8-9.5, sv17(19) = 7.5-8, sv22(24) = 8.5-9, sv26(28) = 8.5-9, sv28(29) = 10-13, spic = 21-16, oes = 25-33, t = 43-45, tmr = 19-21, tmrw = 10-14, mbd = 27-32, (mbd) = 24-28.


Juvenile (n = 1): L = 210, hd = 10 x 6.5, cs = 10, sd5 = 11, sd11 = 9, sd20 = 9.5, sd27 = 11, sd35 = 9, sd47 = 7, sd58 = 9, sd70 = 11, sd77 = 18, t = 42, tmr = 17, oes = 24, mbd = 25.

Specimens from Witsum, Föhr, site 3:


Females (n = 8): L = 270-335, hd = 15-16 x 10-13, cs = 12-16, sd1 = 12-20, sd3 = 12-14, sd7 = 11-14, sd11 = 11-14, sd15(16) = 11-15, sd22 = 11-14, sd27(28) = 12-15, sd33(34, 36) = 9.5-14, sd35(36, 37, 39) = 22-29, sv2 = 7-10, sv9 = 7-9,