In 1940 W. Schneider described a new species Mononchus (Mylonchulus, misspelt Myonchulus) cavensis from a freshwater pond, temporarily flooded by the cave brook of Krška jama, near Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, from one male, four females and an unknown number of juveniles. The description was scanty, the only illustration that of a female tail (Fig. 1, A). The most important characters are: \( L \) (female) = 1.33 mm; \( V = 66 \); gonads paired, symmetrical; body on the ventral side suddenly contracted at the anus; tail tapering, at the base bent ventrad almost 90\(^\circ\), then long, straight; opening of caudal glands terminal. The male was conspicuously small (\( L = 0.81 \) mm); spicule length = 32 \( \mu \)m, number of ventromedian supplements 10. The specimens could not be found in Schneider's collection.

Andrássy (1959a) redescribed the species from the Baradla cave in Hungary, from water emanating from rock cracks. His description differs in two important respects from Schneider's: \( V = 74-76 \), and the distal part of the tail is bent dorsad, resulting in a S-shaped tail. The ventral contraction at the anus is also present here (Fig. 1, B and C). Female gonads paired, short. The single male found had spicules 40 \( \mu \)m long and 8 ventromedian supplements. In the same year (Andrássy, 1959b) he reported the species from groundwater near the Adige river in Northern Italy, but he found only juveniles. In 1962 he reported more specimens from this locality; the males had spicules 52-60 \( \mu \)m long, and 9-10 supplements. The illustration (Fig.1, D) shows a juvenile tail not so strongly curved but even here a distinct dorsal emargination is present. In 1971 he again reported the species from the same region, but did not give a description or illustrations.

A further difference between Andrássy's specimens and those of Schneider concerns the index \( c' \). From Schneider's illustration \( c' \) can be computed as 3.6/2.7 (ABW being measured at the posterior resp. the anterior anal lip); from
Andrássy's (1959a): 2.6/2.0 and 2.6/1.9; from Andrássy's (1959b): 2.1/1.8 (juvenile).

Baqri & Jairajpuri (1974) reported *M. cavensis* from El Salvador, but they gave no description or illustrations, and the dimensions make it doubtful whether their identification was correct: \( L = 0.91 \) mm; \( a = 22; b = 2.2; c = 22; V = 53; \) buccal cavity = 24 × 17 \( \mu \)m. Zullini (1982) reported one male (in litt. March 4, 1992) from a cave near Bergamo, Italy; tail shape agrees with the illustrations of Andrassy (Fig. 1, E). This specimen was made available: \( L = 1.08 \) mm; \( a = 42; b = 3.8; c = 21; c' = 2.1; VD = 174216; \) buccal cavity = 18 × 8 \( \mu \)m; lip region width = 13 \( \mu \)m; neck = 286 \( \mu \)m; tail = 51 \( \mu \)m; spicules = 33 \( \mu \)m; number of supplements not determinable (the specimen had been mounted in jelly).

All *Mylonchulus* species with didelph, amphidelph females have vulva position ranging from 56 to 70. All species with the vulva more posterior are monoprodelph: the posterior gonad is reduced to a longer or shorter uterine sac. Jairajpuri & Khan (1982) placed these species in a separate genus *Paramylonchulus*, but I synonymize this with *Mylonchulus* (Loof, 1993). It must be mentioned that two of these species were reported to have a more anterior vulva (*P. caespitosus* (Razzhivin, 1971): 66-70; *P. silvaticus* (Razzhivin, 1971): 67-69).

The far posterior position of the vulva in Andrassy's females suggests that the posterior gonad might be reduced. Unfortunately, the specimens have disappeared since (Andrassy, in litt. October 22, 1991). It is not certain whether he really had seen a posterior ovary (Andrassy, in litt. February 3, 1992). A parallel case is *M. incurvus* Cobb, 1917 apud Jensen & Mulvey, 1968; vulva position was