

Research Institute for Vegetable Crops, Laboratory of Nematology  
96-100 Skierniewice, Poland

ABNORMAL MALE OF *MERLINIUS BREVIDENS* (ALLEN, 1955)  
SIDDIQI, 1970

by  
A. L. ZEPP

A male of *Merlinius brevidens* (Allen, 1955) Siddiqi, 1970 with a tail similar to that of female and without a bursa was found in soil samples from Reguly near Warsaw, Poland (Fig. 1). The reproductive organs of this specimen were normally developed, with a single testis, suggesting that it was sexually functional. The lateral fields also were similar to that of a female.

The measurements of specimen from this populations are as follow.

Abnormal male, length = 0.53 mm, a = 29, b = 4.6, c = 11.7, c' = 2.8, stylet = 14  $\mu$ , T = 44, spicules = 21  $\mu$ , gubernaculum = 7  $\mu$ , MB = 44, m = 57, o = 7, phasmid, 52-57 percent of tail length posterior from cloaca.

Normal males (9 individuals), L = 0.62 (0.53-0.67) mm, a = 34 (32-37), b = 4.8 (4.2-5.1), c = 11.5 (10.5-12.0), c = 3.8 (3.1-4.5), stylet = 15 (14-15)  $\mu$ , T = 46 (41-52), spicules = 23 (21-24)  $\mu$ , gubernaculum = 7 (6-7)  $\mu$ , MB = 45 (42-48), m = 54 (50-60), o = 11 (7-14), phasmids = 48-51 percent of tail length posterior from cloaca.

Females (9 individuals), L = 0.64 (0.55-0.68) mm, a = 31 (26-38), b = 5.1 (4.6-5.5), c = 12.0 (10.4-13.7), c' = 3.5 (2.9-4.2), V = 56 (54-58), stylet = 15 (14-15)  $\mu$ , m = 55 (47-60), o = 11 (7-14), MB = 45 (42-47), phasmids = 45-47 percent of tail length posterior from cloaca.

Similar abnormal male was described by Choi and Geraert (1972) for *M. koreanus* Choi et Geraert.

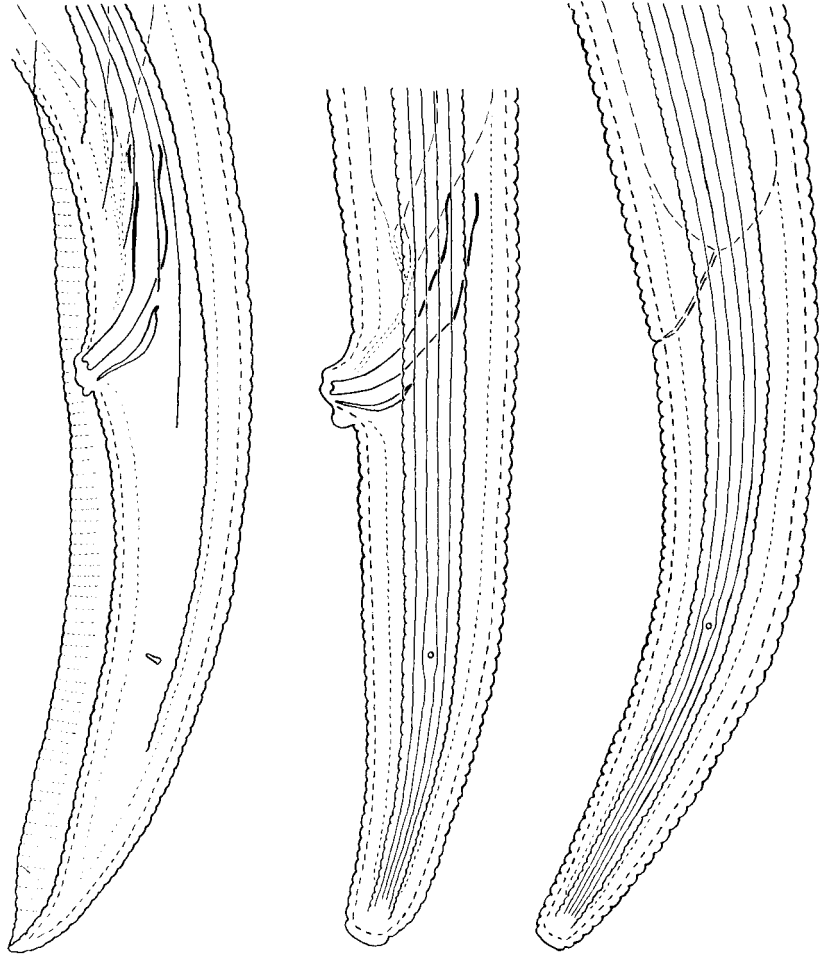


Fig. 1 - Tails of *Merlinius brevidens*, from left to right: normal male, abnormal male and female.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- CHOI Y.E. and GERAERT E., 1972 - Some remarkable Tylenchida from Korea.  
*Nematologica*, 18: 66-73.

---

Accepted for publication on 10 March, 1974.