

The second record of a representative of the marine genus *Penzancia* de Man, 1889 (Nematoda: Monhysterida: Xyalidae) in soil

S.YA. TSALOLIKHIN

S.Ya. Tsalolikhin, Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Universitetskaya nab. 1, St. Petersburg 199034, Russia.

The article provides a brief description of *Penzancia* sp. from soil under moss from Tunisia. The species is morphologically close to *P. terricola*.

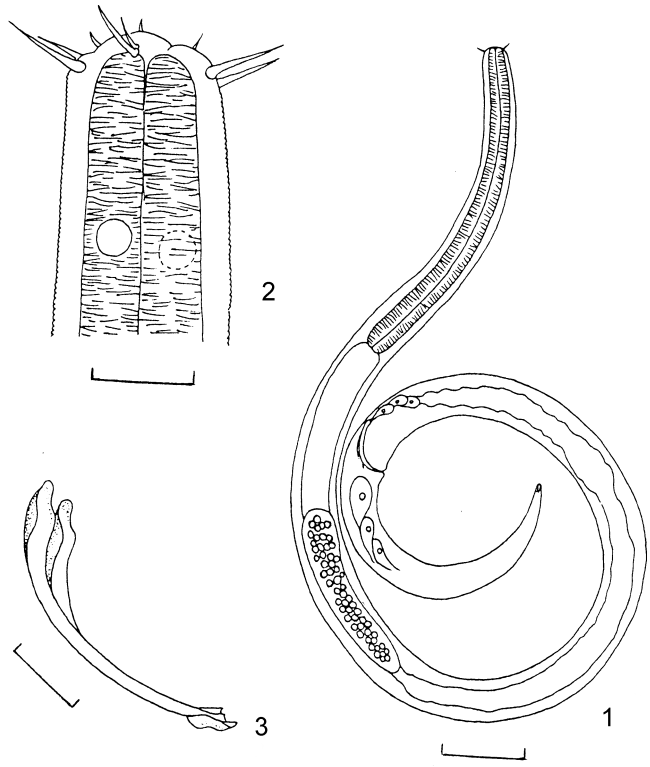
Key words: free-living nematodes, *Penzancia*, new record, Tunisia.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Penzancia* de Man, 1889 includes a number of species characteristic for marine, brackish and partially freshwater habitats. The discovery of *P. terricola* Andrassy, 1985 in Hungary in soil around maize roots (Andrassy, 1985) was perplexing. No less surprising was the discovery of a representative of this genus in moss beneath cork oak trees (*Quercus suber*) on the frontier between Tunisia and Algeria in the Atlas Mountains (36°45'N 8°41'E). Unfortunately the material is only represented by a single male that does not allow a sufficiently reliable description of a new species, even though it is highly probable that the species discovered in Tunisia is new for science.

Cuticle thin and very faintly annulated. Head diameter 14 µm; cephalic setae 9 µm long. Amphid (diameter 4.5 µm) situated at 18 µm from anterior end. Oesophagus 159 µm long; tail 130 µm long.

Morphologically the species is close to *P. terricola* but differs from it in the body length and length of the spicula (37 µm vs 30 µm). From *P. gobiensis* Tsalolikhin, 1985 (brackish water lakes in Mongolia: Tsalo-



***Penzancia* sp.**
(Figs 1-3)

Male: L=857 µm, a=39, b=5.4, c=6.6, c'=5.6, spic. 37 µm, gub. 14 µm.

Figs 1-3. *Penzancia* sp. 1, entire body; 2, head; 3, spicula. Scales: 1 – 40 µm; 2, 3 – 10µm.

likhin, 1985) the Tunisian species differs in the body length, length of the spicula (37 μm vs. 50 μm) and the index c' (5.6 vs. 10.6).

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