

**DESCRIPTION OF *DISCOLAIMUS PAKISTANENSE* N. SP.
(NEMATODA: DORYLAIMIDA) WITH A COMPENDIUM OF
THE GENUS *DISCOLAIMUS* COBB, 1913 FROM PAKISTAN**

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Abstract

A compendium of the genus *Discolaimus*, based on the characters: body length, stylet and spicule length, number of supplements, ratios a, b, c, c', and vulva percentage, is presented. These allometric and morphometric characters were derived from the original descriptions. *Discolaimus pakistanense* n. sp., collected from soil around the roots of wheat plants in Mirpurkhas, Sindh, is described and illustrated. It is characterized by its moderately large and slender body; oesophagus with a conspicuous sheath in the posterior half of the expanded part of oesophagus; a bluntly rounded tail, less than one anal body width; nine supplement arranged in two groups of 3 and 6. It comes close to *D. curvus* Siddiqi, 2005; *D. leviniae* Furstenberg & Heyns, 1965; *D. neomajor* Siddiqi, 2005 and *D. papillatus* Khan *et al.*, 1994 but differs from the former in the body length, in a, b values, vulva percentage, odontostyle length, spicule length and in number of supplements (L = 2.2-2.4 vs 2.4-3.1mm; a = 42-44 vs 48-55; b = 5.5-6.0 vs 4.0-4.5; V % = 55-57 vs 48-55; odontostyle = 21-24 vs 29-31 μ m; in male spicule length = 39 vs 50; supplements = 9 vs 8). It differs from *D. leviniae* in b, c values, vulva percentage and in number of supplements (b = 5.5-6.0 vs 4.1; c = 94-100 vs 73; V % = 55-57 vs 48; supplements 9 vs 11). It differs from *D. neomajor* in b, c, c' values, vulva percentage, odontostyle length and in presence of males (b = 5.5-6.0 vs 3.8-4.0; c = 94-100 vs 65-74; c' = 0.6-0.7 vs 0.9-1.0; V % = 55-57 vs 40.8-42.3; odontostyle = 21-24 vs 24-27 μ m; presence of males vs absent). It differs from *D. papillatus* in body length, a, b, c, c' values, odontostyle length and in number of supplements (L = 2.2-2.4 vs 1.7-1.9 mm; a = 42-44 vs 44-47; b = 5.5-6.0 vs 4.2-4.6; c = 94-100 vs 54-60; c' = 0.6-0.7 vs 1.2-1.3; odontostyle = 21-24 vs 18-19 μ m; supplements = 9 vs 15). An up to date list of 41 valid species along with illustrations is also provided