

Review of *Ptycholaimellus* Cobb (Nematoda, Chromadoridae), with descriptions of three species

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Nematodes of the genus *Ptycholaimellus* Cobb, 1920 are unique in possessing a collar by which the head is separated from the body. The collar is raised from a groove at the border between the neck and the remainder of the body. The contents of the ventral gland cell are emptied in the groove in at least 9 out of 14 species. It is suggested that the amphids are located in the groove. Fourteen species are considered to belong to *Ptycholaimellus*. Two *Ptycholaimellus* species are described as new to science, that is, *P. jacobi* sp.n. and *P. vincxae* sp.n.; *P. ponticus* (Fihpjev, 1922) is redescribed. *Ptycholaimellus ponticus* sensu Stekhoven (1950) and Boucher (1972) from the Mediterranean off France differs from the other *Ptycholaimellus* species by its subcuticular ornamentation and shape of spicules, hence these specimens are regarded as belonging to a new species: *Ptycholaimellus boucheri* sp.n. *Chromadorissa inaequibulba* Aminova & Galtsova, 1978 is transferred to *Ptycholaimellus* as *P. inaequibulbus*. *Ptycholaimellus ponticus* from Europe and *P. pandispiculatus* (Hopper, 1961) from the east coast of North America are assumed to have colonized brackish waters independently.

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