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OCCURRENCE OF SPINES IN THE UTERUS OF *XIPHINEMA VUITTENEZI* (NEMATODA: DORYLAIMIDA)

by

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Summary. The occurrence of spindle shaped spines in the uterus of paratype females of *Xiphinema vuittenezi* Luc, Lima, Weischer *et* Flegg, 1964 is reported and an amendment to Loof and Luc (1990) polytomous key to the species of *Xiphinema* is proposed. Code B3 will now stand for B4; consequently *X. vuittenezi* is transferred from group 8 to group 6.

The original description of *Xiphinema vuittenezi* Luc, Lima, Weischer *et* Flegg, 1964 does not report the presence of spines in the uteri, nor are such structures mentioned in the revised polytomous key to the species of *Xiphinema* (Loof and Luc, 1990), although distinct spindle shaped structures of variable size and num-

ber were observed in the tubular portion of the uterus of an Iranian population of *X. vuittenezi* (Mojtahedi *et al.*, 1980) and Kruger (1988) suggests that presence or absence of uterine differentiation should be confirmed for six *Xiphinema* species, one of them being *X. vuittenezi*.

During a study of the morphometric varia-

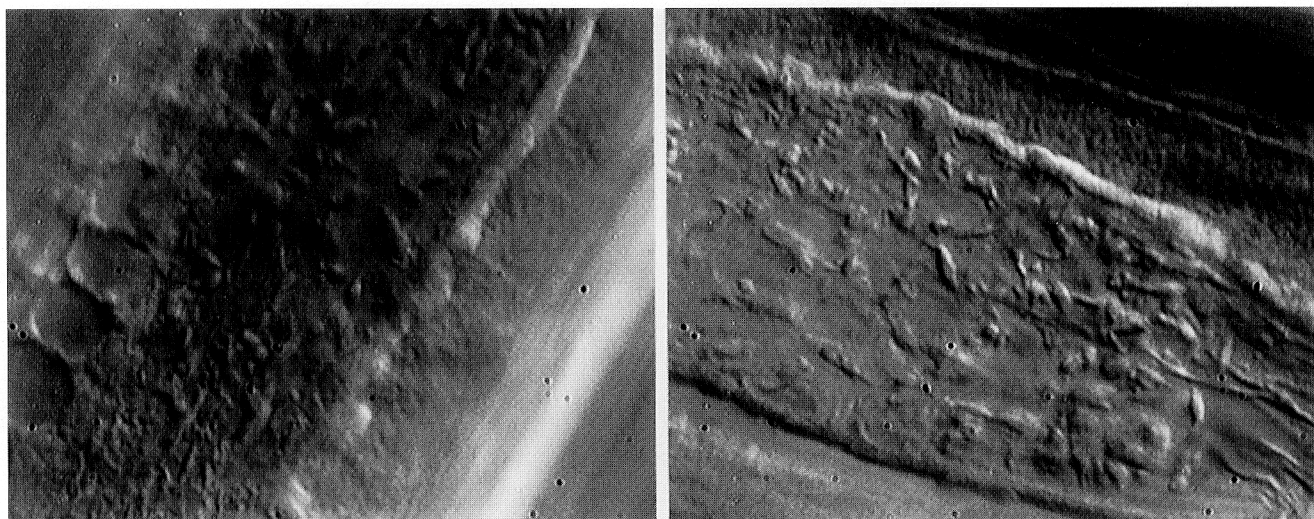


Fig. 1 - Spindle shaped spines in the uterus of paratypes of *Xiphinema vuittenezi*.

tion in populations of *X. vuittenezi* Luc *et al.*, 1964 spindle shaped spines were observed in all of those collected in Serbia (Barsi and Lamberti, 2000). Observations were then extended to populations collected in Slovenia, Slovakia, Switzerland and Hungary and all had similar structures, as did specimens from Germany and England that were cultured on grapevine in a glasshouse (D. J. F. Brown, personal communication). Paratype females (Fig. 1) and females of *X. vuittenezi* collected in other localities near the type locality at Guntersblum, Germany, all had spines in varying numbers.

Loof and Luc (1990), in their polytomous key for the identification of *Xiphinema* species, placed *X. vuittenezi* in group 8: species with female genital branches equally developed, without uterine differentiation (B4) and short rounded tail. The new code for *X. vuittenezi* is now:

A4, B3, C5 (7b), D5/6, E5/6, F3/4, G2/3, H2, I3, J4/5, K2, L1 and this species should be transferred to Group 6 (Loof and Luc, 1990).

Literature cited

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