

Cyathostomum (Cya.) alveatum

50 μ m



Figure 4a
Head
1. woman's slip
2. straps

100 μ m

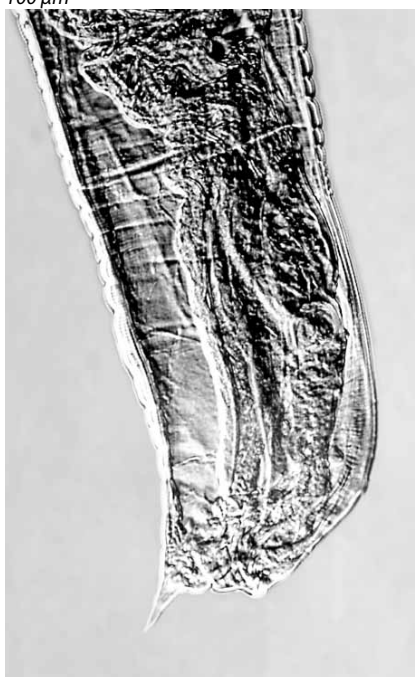


Figure 4b
Female tail

100 μ m

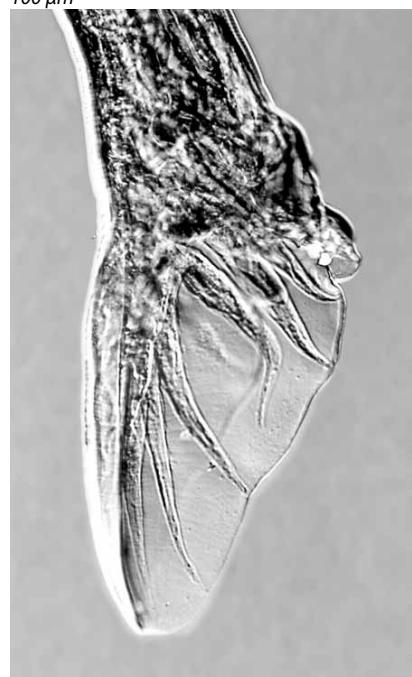


Figure 4c
Male tail

This species had never been reported in the United States until we found it and some other "rare" species in abundance in a group of donkeys (Tolliver, et al., 1985). The **walls** of the buccal capsule are **quite thick**, larger at the base and tapering anteriorly and moving away from each other. Also, the **walls** are **very tall** for such a small species, making the buccal capsule appear quite deep. Since the species is small, the esophagus is in view at the same time as the buccal capsule at 10X. The walls of the buccal capsule and the esophagus together resemble a **woman's slip**, with the walls being the slip's straps.

The female tail looks like a short fat foot with a sharp spike at the tip. The male tail is quite large considering the size of the worm, and it resembles a **raptor's foot**.

Walls of the Buccal Capsule:

- quite thick; larger at the base; taper anteriorly and move away from each other
- very tall for such a small species
- together with the esophagus resemble a woman's slip

Size: small
Preferred site: cecum
Represents <1% of population

Cyathostomum catinatum

50 μ m

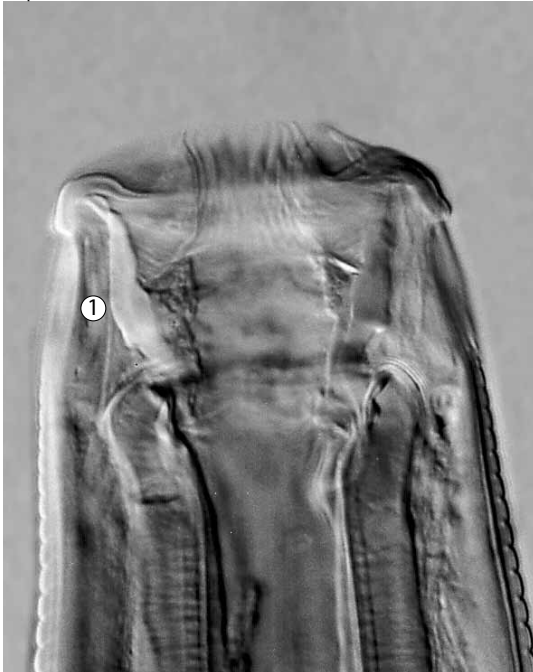


Figure 5a
Head
1. cat's eyes

100 μ m



Figure 5b
Female tail
2. fat foot

100 μ m

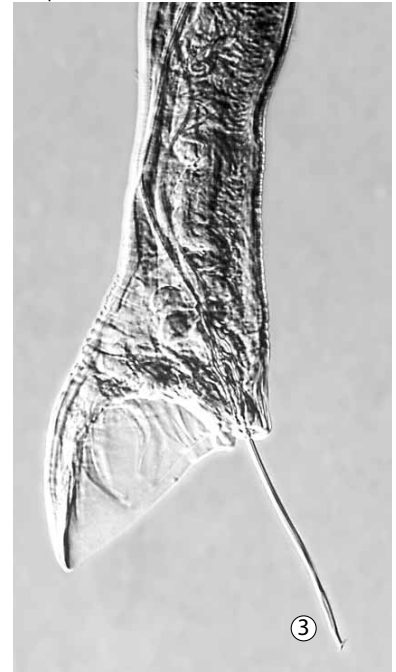


Figure 5c
Male tail
3. extended spicules with hooks

This is the second most common cyathostome species in Kentucky, comprising about 28 percent of the cyathostome populations in most equids. It is very easy to identify. The walls of the buccal capsule are wide at the base and taper nearly to a point anteriorly. As they taper, they slant away from each other, giving the appearance of a pair of **cat's eyes**.

The female tail is very blunt and resembles a little **fat foot**. The male tail is of average size, and the tip of the dorsal ray slightly **curves back ventrally**. The spicules are almost always extended outside the bursa, and there are hooks on the end of the spicules that are quite visible.

Walls of the Buccal Capsule:

- wide at the base; taper nearly to a point anteriorly
- resemble a pair of cat's eyes

Size: small
Preferred site: ventral colon
Resistant in Kentucky
Represents 28% of population

Cyathostomum pateratum

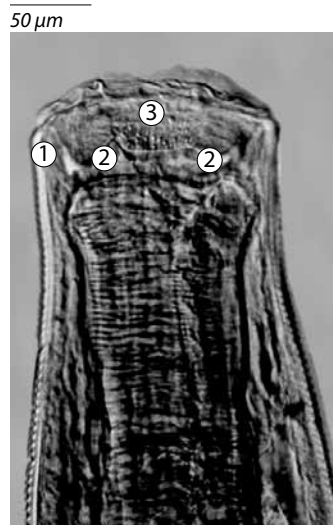


Figure 6a
Head
1. upside-down triangles
2. two hills
3. patch of freckles



Figure 6b
Head
1. upside-down triangles

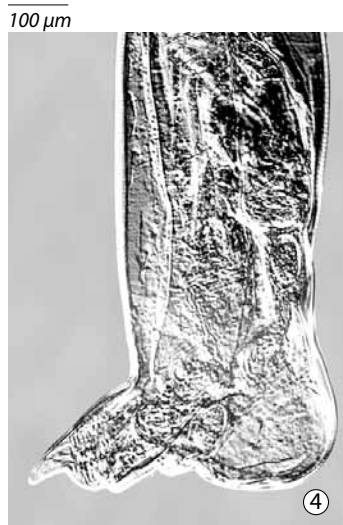


Figure 6c
Female tail
4. fat foot



Figure 6d
Male tail

This species looks like a country cousin of *Cya. catinatum*. The shape of the head is squarer, and the worm itself is stouter. A structure resembling **two little “hills”** runs through the middle of the buccal capsule. The walls of the capsule and the mouth itself are not as deep, which makes the buccal capsule walls appear more truly triangular (the triangles are slanted and upside down). Also, the buccal capsule seems to be dotted with what looks like a little **patch of freckles**.

The female tail looks like a big fat foot, and the dorsal ray of the male bursa is short.

Size: small
Preferred site: ventral colon/dorsal colon
Represents <1% of population

Walls of the Buccal Capsule:

- walls look like triangles that are slanted and upside down

Other Distinguishing Characteristics:

- head is squarer than *Cya. catinatum*
- worm itself is stouter
- has two little “hills” running through the middle of buccal capsule
- buccal capsule appears freckled

Cyathostomum tetracanthum

30 μ m

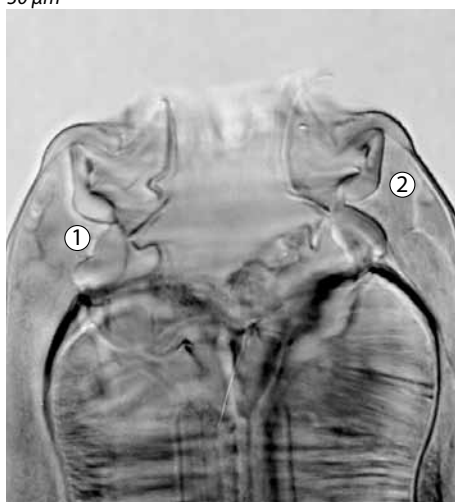


Figure 7a
Head
1. hinged walls
2. devil's horns

50 μ m

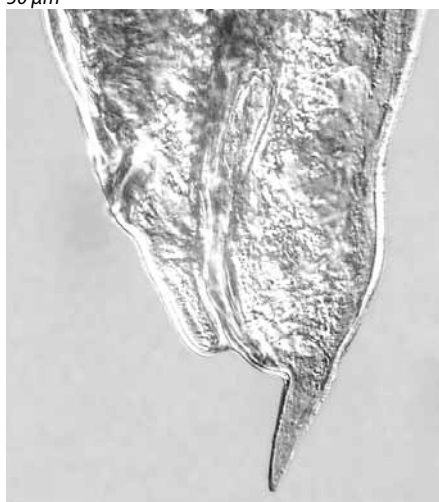


Figure 7b
Female tail

100 μ m

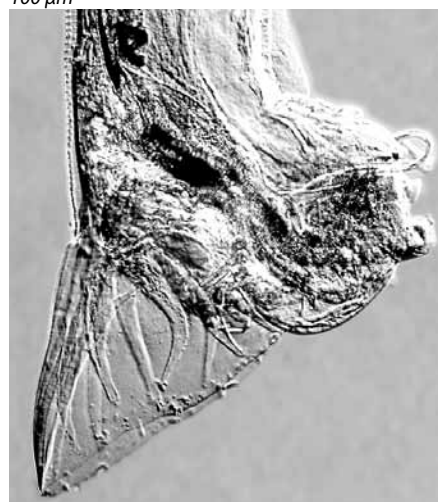


Figure 7c
Male tail

This is a very rare species and also one that we had never recovered from hundreds of horses, although it had been reported in the United States. However, we found it in abundance in a group of donkeys. This species is very easy to identify because the walls of the buccal capsule are different from the other species in that they appear to be **segmented**. The base of the mouth walls looks like **fat little stubs** that slightly resemble a **kidney bean standing on end**. About halfway up into the mouth, the walls pinch almost together like a **hinge joint**; then the walls of the mouth curve out and up like a pair of "**devil's horns**."

The female tail tapers at the posterior end and finally ends in a "**finger-pointed**" tip. The male bursa is quite broad but has a very short dorsal ray.

Walls of the Buccal Capsule:

- appear segmented
- "kidney bean" base
- pinch together like a hinge joint
- curve out and up like a pair of "devil's horns"

Size: small
Preferred site: ventral colon
Represents <1% of population