

# Microlaimidae (Microlaimoidea: Nematoda) from the Indian Ocean:

## Abstract:

Nine species are described from the genera *Aponema* Jensen, 1978, *Bolbolaimus* Cobb, 1920, *Calomicrolaimus* Lorenzen, 1976, *Ixonema* Lorenzen, 1976 and *Microlaimus* de Man, 1880. *Aponema decraemerae* sp.n. is characterised by sexual dimorphism in the size of the amphids, short cephalic sensilla, spicules with a poorly developed capitulum and conical cylindrical tail with a pointed tip. *Aponema mnazi* sp.n. is characterised by short cephalic sensilla, head set off from the rest of the body by a fine constriction, spicules with a pointed anterior tip, one precloacal supplement located at 7  $\mu\text{m}$  from the cloaca opening and a short tail with a blunt tip. *Bolbolaimus bahari* sp. n. is characterised by cuticular annules with fine interannular spaces, papilliform labial sensilla and short setiform cephalic ones, curved spicules with a poorly developed capitulum. *Bolbolaimus abebei* sp.n. is characterised by setiform outer labial and cephalic sensilla and spicules with a well-developed beak shaped capitulum. *Calomicrolaimus jenseni* sp. n. is characterised by an elongate cervical region, small (2  $\mu\text{m}$  wide) amphids located at 44–54% of the pharyngeal length from the anterior and a conical tail with a pointed tip. *Ixonema deleyi* sp. n. is characterised by a small body (<400  $\mu\text{m}$  long) an elongate cervical region, small (1–2  $\mu\text{m}$  wide) circular amphids with rod-like corpus gelatum located at 30–45% of the pharyngeal length from the anterior. *Microlaimus texianus* Chitwood, 1951 is characterised by sexual dimorphism in the size of the amphids and presence of five pre-cloacal supplements. *Microlaimus minutus* sp. n. is characterised by a small body (< 300  $\mu\text{m}$  long) that is often curved or coiled, amphids that are 55–60% cbd and located at 11–15  $\mu\text{m}$  away from the anterior end and short (12–15  $\mu\text{m}$  long) simple spicules. *Microlaimus pwani* sp.n. is characterised by prominent cuticular annules, long cephalic sensilla, amphids that are 50–55% cbd and located at 11–13  $\mu\text{m}$  from the anterior end and long sausage-shaped striated sperms.