

SUBFAMILY LORDELLONEMATINAE SIDDIQI, 1969

DIAGNOSIS: Cuticle tylencholaimoid type. Somatic musculature apparently meromyarian. Body pores usually distinct, leading to prominent cuticularized ducts. Lip region offset by constriction. Odontostyle dorylaimoid, with wide lumen and aperture. Odontophore simple, rod-like. Anterior pair of sub-ventral glands widely separated from each other, anterior one being close to dorsal gland. Female reproductive system monodelphic or amphidelphic. Males very rare. Spicules with or without median stiffening piece. Tail short, conoid to elongate-conoid; similar in sexes.

Type genus: *Lordellonema* Andrassy, 1960

Other genera: *Poronemella* Siddiqi, 1969

Moshajia Siddiqi, 1982

Sicorinema Siddiqi, 1982

KEY TO GENERA OF LORDELLONEMATINAE

1. Body pores indistinct; female reproductive system mono-opisthodelphic*Sicorinema*
 Body pores distinct; female reproductive system mono-prodelphic
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2. Ventral body pores restricted to pharyngeal region; tail elongate-conoid, dorsally bent*Poronemella*

- Ventral body pores occur along entire length of body; tail short-
 conoid or sub-digital 3
3. Odontostyle aperture more than one-half its length; spicules non-
 dorylaimoid *Moshajia*
- Odontostyle aperture less than one-half its length; spicules
 dorylaimoid *Lordellonema*

GENUS *MOSHAJIA* SIDDIQI, 1982

Siddiqi (1982) described the genus *Moshajia* with two new species viz; *M. idiofora* and *M. cultristyla*. He also transferred *Lordellonema warriari* Jairajpuri, 1965 to this genus. *Moshajia* differs from *Lordellonema* Andrassy, 1960 in having an odontostyle and odontophore with a wider lumen and wider stoma lumen.

During present work few female specimens of *Moshajia* were recorded from Periyar forest, Kerala. On detailed study they were found to represent *M. cultristyla* which is being discussed in the following.

DIAGNOSIS: Body medium size (about 1 mm or longer) Cuticle irregular with fixation folds. Body pores conspicuous leading to prominent cuticular canals; lateral pores widely spaced; ventral pores present along entire length of body; dorsal pores present only in anterior region. Lip region offset by constriction; lips and papillae raised. Odontostyle with wide lumen and aperture over one-half its length. Guiding ring single. Odontophore rod-like. Pharynx very muscular, gradually enlarging at or behind middle. Female reproductive system amphidelphic. Vulva pore-like. Spicules non dorylaimoid, without median stiffening piece. Ventromedian supplements numerous, spaced. Tail conoid to sub-digitate.

Type species: *Moshajia idiofora* Siddiqi, 1982

Other species: *M. cultristyla* Siddiqi, 1982

M. warriari (Jairajpuri, 1965) Siddiqi 1982

Moshajia cultristyla* Siddiqi, 1982*MEASUREMENTS:**

Females (n = 5): L = 1.14-1.20 (1.17) mm; a = 22-25 (24); b = 2.8-4.0 (3.9); c = 31-36 (34); c' = 1.3-1.6 (1.4); V = 51-56 (54); G1 = 5-7 (6); G2 = 5-7 (6); odontostyle = 13-14 (13) μm ; odontophore = 18-19 (18) μm ; neck length = 282-304 (293) μm ; prerectum = 65-75 (70) μm ; rectum = 28-31 (30) μm ; tail = 33-39 (36) μm ; ABD = 23-25 (24) μm .

HABITAT & LOCALITY : Soil around roots of teak plant (*Tectona grandis*) from Periyar forest, Thekkadi district, Kerala, India. Collection on April 19, 1995.

REMARKS: Siddiqi (1982) described *M. cultristyla* from Nigeria. The present population conforms well with those described by Siddiqi except for having slightly longer tail (c = 37-43 in type population). This is the first report of the species from India and ever first report after its original description from Nigeria.