Figure 3. Copulatory seta. CP—copulatory pad (× 900)

Copulatory setae have been described by Stephenson[2] to be 0.8 to 1 mm long and *ca* 20 μ thick, bluntly pointed with fine-ringed markings. The copulatory seta reveals the presence of ridges on the shaft of the seta. The ridges are crescentic in shape and are arranged in rows (figure 3). The tip of the copulatory seta has a pad of about 10 μ diameter and probably functions as a 'copulatory pad' for attachment during mating.

As an argument in support of functional mechanism to the structural modifications of the genital setae, it seems that after attachment by 'copulatory pads', the penial setae may cover the openings of the spermathecae by their shovels and pass the seminal fluid through their pores (?) into the spermathecae of their partner, the shovels preventing spill of the seminal fluid; the ridges of the penial and copulatory setae probably providing physical stimuli to the partner as described by Feldkamp[3].

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NEWS

VITAMIN C AND CISPLATIN FIGHT CANCER TOGETHER

. . ."While recent tests show that large doses of vitamin C cannot cure cancer, a new anti-cancer compound based on vitamin C linked to platinum has been made. . . . This is a new variety of the drug cisplatin [that] is stirring the interest of chemists and pharmacists. Research also shows how cisplatin destroys cancer cells. Cisplatin (real name cisdiamminedichloroplatinum II) is a platinum (Pt) complex. . . . Cisplatin therapy, though effective against cancer, has severe side effects. In early clinical trials one patient in five died of kidney failure. The cause was the heavy metal, platinum, at the heart of the drug. Consequently, much research has gone into producing alternative complexes in which the platinum atom is chemically bonded to more stable compounds, and this is where vitamin C re-enters the picture. Steven Hollis, Alan Amundsen and Eric Stern [Englehard Corp., Edison, N.J.] have produced a complex in which vitamin C is attached to platinum. . . . The new drug has already been successfully tested against mouse tumours."

[(John Emsley (King's College, London, UK) in *New Scientist* 4 Apr 85, p. 21 [pd 2706j]*). Reproduced with permission from Press Digest, *Current Contents*®, No. 27. July 8, 1985, p. 15. (Published by the Institute for Scientific Information®, Philadelphia, PA, USA.)]