

# ROUNDWORMS

Phylum Nematoda

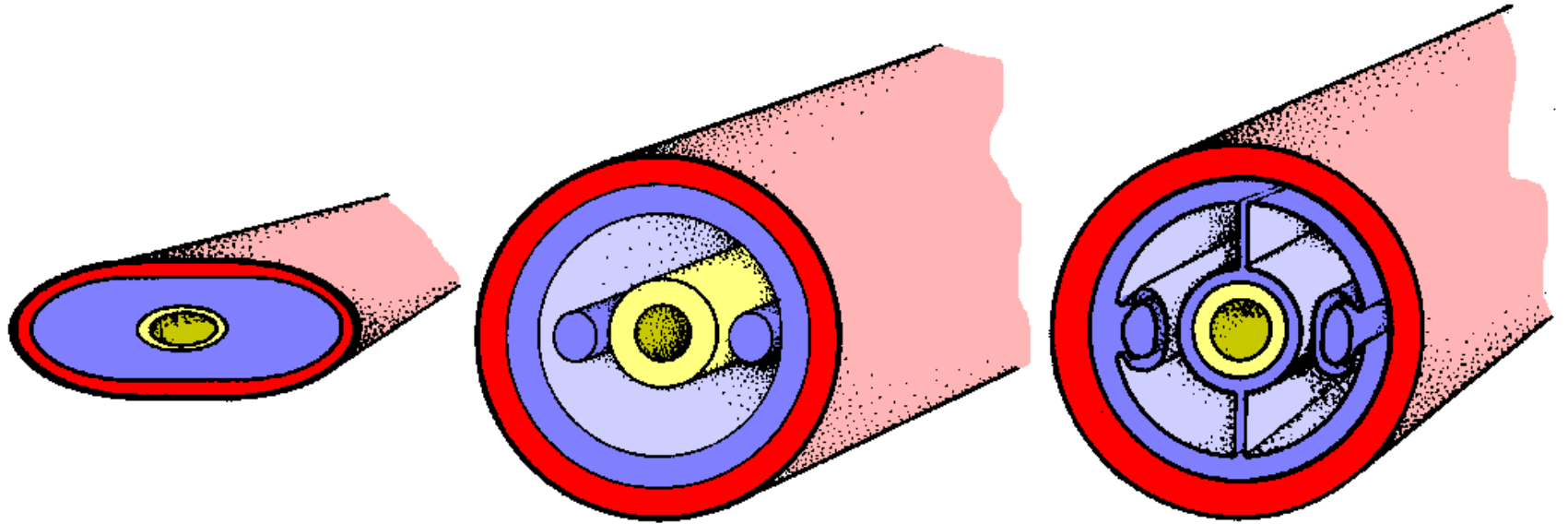
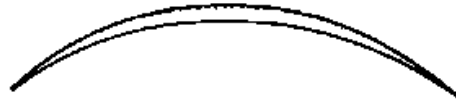
Ex. Trichinella, hookworm,  
nematode



# Characteristics of Phylum Nematoda

- Body type: bilateral
- Ecological roles:
  - Parasitic
  - Food source
  - Aerate soil
  - Breakdown material
- Body organization:  
3 layers – endoderm, mesoderm, ectoderm
- Body cavity:  
pseudocoelom



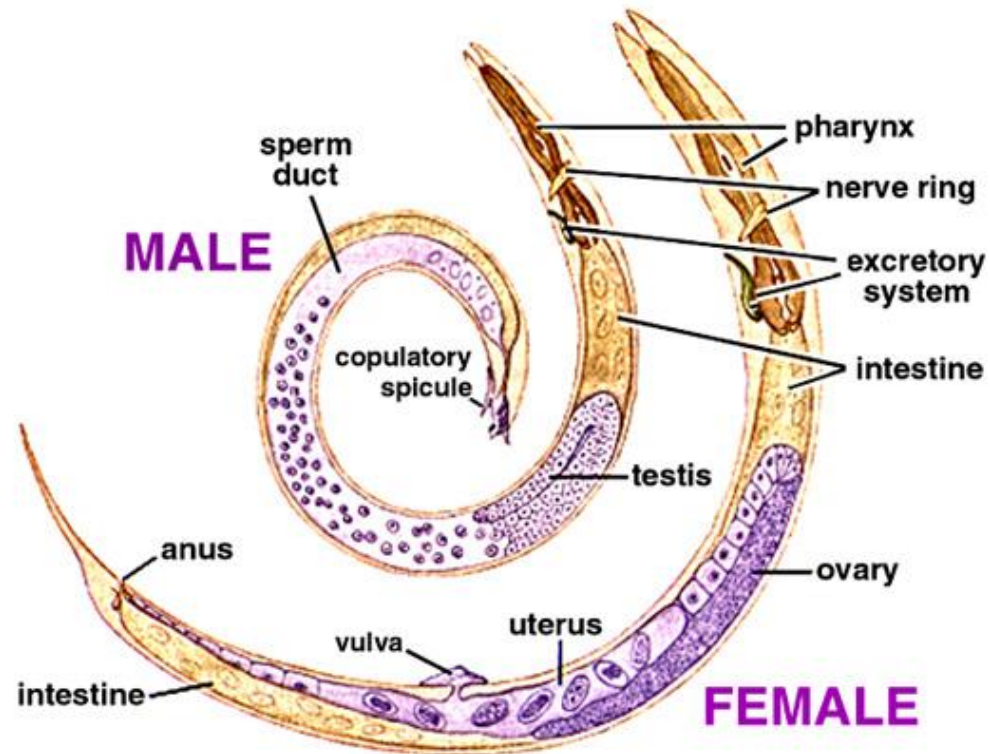


Livingstone © BIODIDAC

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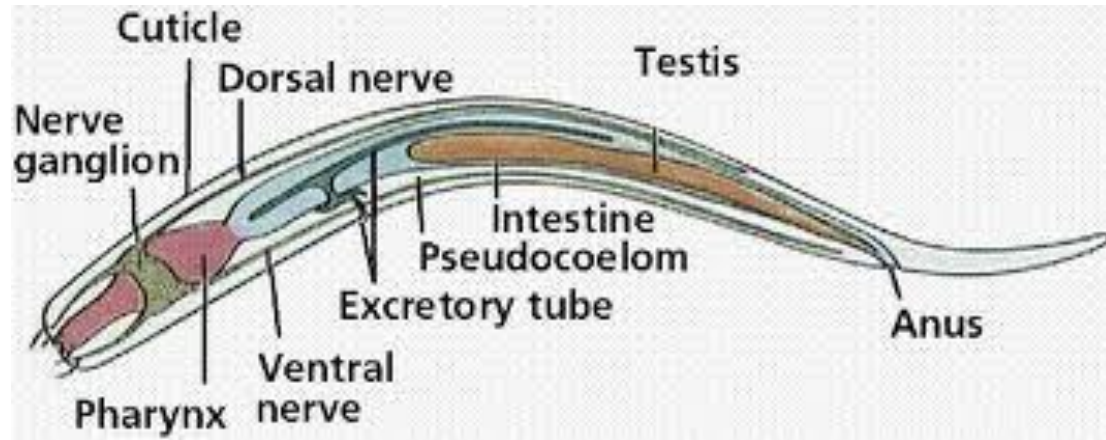
# Characteristics continued

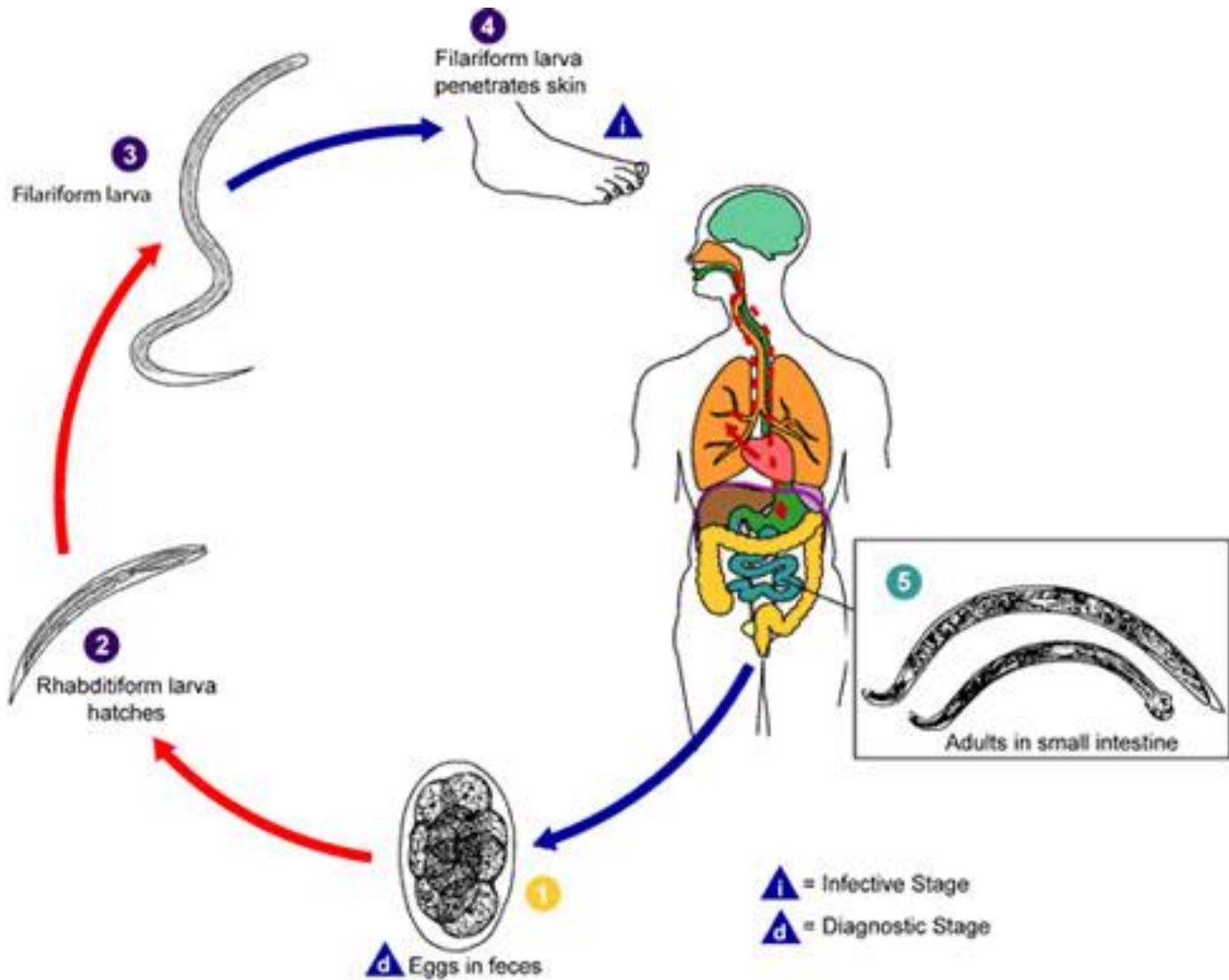
- Digestive system: complete digestive system – mouth & anus! Special organs
- Reproduction:
  - Sexual: ***dioecious*** = separate sexes
  - Asexual: none



# Characteristics continued

- Circulation: diffusion
- Nervous System:  
brain, ganglion (**first**),  
nerves, & sensory  
organs
- Respiration: diffusion  
through skin
- Excretion: anus & tubes
- Habitat: host (intestine or  
blood) & soil



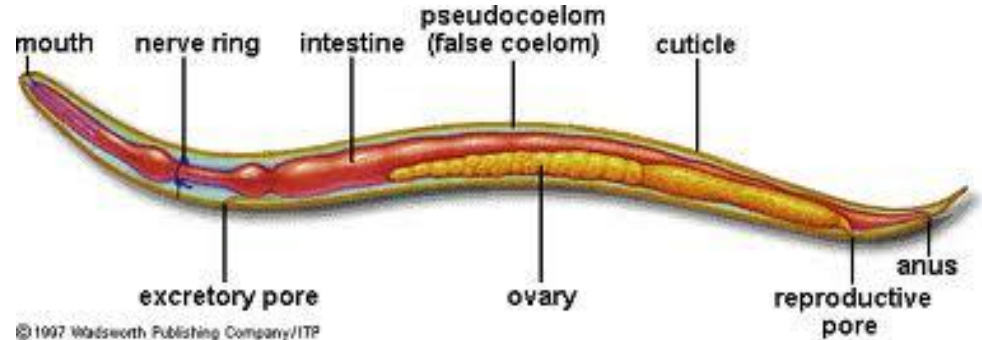


- Most free living and harmless.

- Some parasitic

ex) Trichinella - from undercooked pork. Causes the disease Trichinosis.

- Hookworms have hooks and sharp teeth to burrow into host



## Evolution of parasitic worms

- Parasitic worms couldn't compete with other worms so they went where there is less competition
  - ➔ the digestive tract & circulatory system of animals.