

increase the utility of this method, it is important that staining patterns, including their variations, be illustrated for a species.

The method used by this author to stain specimens consisted of placing no more than a few individuals in a shallow dish of 70% alcohol darkly pigmented from methyl green granules (e.g., shallow dish must be picked up to detect worm). Worms were immersed for about one minute, then placed in a dish of clean alcohol to leach excess stain. After leaching the stain (one to several minutes), the specimens were placed in another dish of clean alcohol for evaluation of the staining pattern. Staining patterns were evaluated when the stain was only retained by gland cells and had leached from non-glandular parts of the body. This author has found that immersion in a concentrated methyl green solution permits a shorter immersion time than more weak solutions and speeds the stain evaluation process. When evaluating specimens from different stations, one or more dishes of stain and separate dishes for leaching alcohol can be used so that specimens can be stained and compared nearly concurrently.