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A NEW NEMATODE OF THE GENUS PETROWOSPIRURA (SPIRUROIDEA) FROM THE CAT, *FELIS DOMESTICA* FROM INDIA

During July, 1976 a cat was collected from Ummed Chowk, Jodhpur, India and examined for nematode infection. Ten worms, four males and six females belonging to the spirurid genus *Petrowospirura* Matschulsky, 1952 were received. The worms differ from other known species and appear to constitute a new species.

Petrowospirura barusi sp.n. Figs. 1—2

Host: *Felis domestica*.

Location: Stomach. Locality: Ummed Chowk, Jodhpur, India.

Type specimens: Holotype male, NJ 18 (a); deposited with the Zoology Museum, University

of Jodhpur, Jodhpur, India. Allotype female No. NJ 18 (b): other data as for holotype. Paratypes No. NJ 18 (c); other data as for holotype. (All measurements are given in millimeters).

Worms soft, long and whitish, cuticular striae well developed, 0.007—0.008 and 0.006 to 0.008 apart in male and female respectively. Mouth with two lobes. Each lobe with three lips and two pairs of cephalic papillae. Buccal capsule funnel-shaped with heavily chitinized walls and twelve longitudinal ridges extending throughout its length. Buccal capsule 0.07—0.12 and 0.06—0.10 long in male and female respectively. Diameter of buccal capsule at anterior

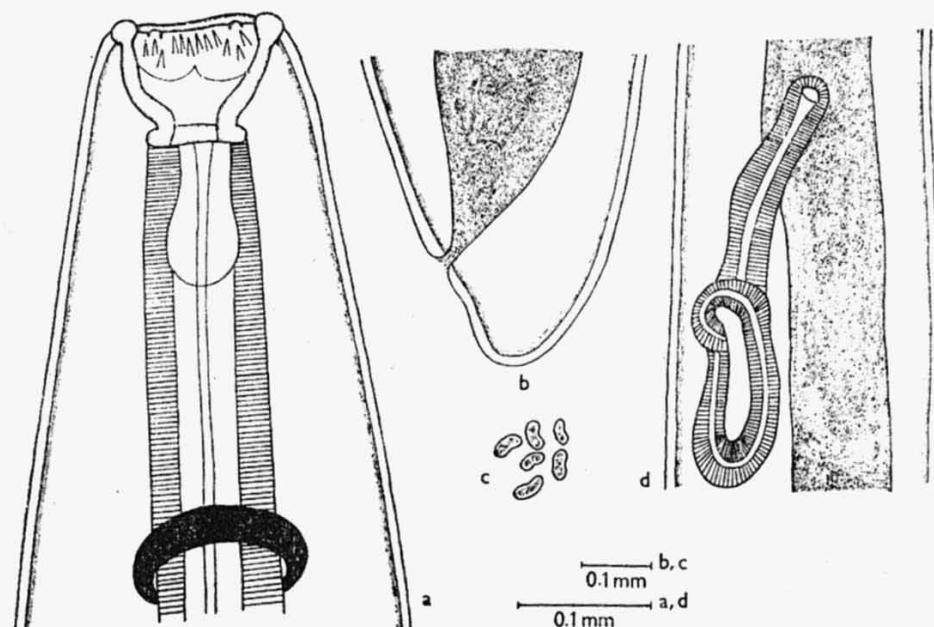


Fig. 1. *Petrowospirura barusi* sp.n. a — Anterior extremity of female, b — Posterior extremity of female, c — Vulvar region, d — Eggs.

end 0.12—0.15 and 0.12—0.14 in male and female respectively. Diameter of buccal capsule at posterior end 0.05—0.06 and 0.05—0.07 in male and female respectively. Diameter of basal plate at buccal capsule 0.013—0.015 and 0.010—0.012 in male and female respectively. Oesophagus divided into shorter anterior muscular portion measuring $0.53—0.79 \times 0.08$ to $—0.09$ in male and $0.45—0.65 \times 0.07—0.10$ in female and longer posterior glandular portion measuring $1.95—2.25 \times 0.20—0.26$ in male and $2.15—2.50 \times 0.20—0.23$ in female. Conspicuous oesophago-intestinal valve present. Intestine as wide as glandular oesophagus. Nerve ring at 0.31—0.38 in male and 0.26—0.34 in female and excretory pore at 0.33—0.39 in male and

0.27—0.34 in female from anterior extremity. Cervical papillae absent.

Male: Length 22—32; maximum thickness 0.37—0.39. Tail 0.19—0.21 long and curled. Caudal alae absent. Pedunculate caudal papillae: four pairs precloacal and two pairs postcloacal. Sessile caudal papillae absent. Spicules unequal and dissimilar. Left spicule 1.98—2.0 long, thin and proximal end expanded and distal end blunt. Right spicule 0.35—0.44 long, thick and proximal end knobbed and distal end blunt. Gubernaculum measures $0.084—0.10 \times 0.064$ to 0.095 and fanshaped.

Female: Length 21—26, maximum thickness 0.38—0.42. Tail 0.15—0.18 long, conical and blunt. Vulva conspicuous and preequatorial, at 3.40—4.45 from anterior extremity. Vagina muscular and posteriad. Eggs kidney-shaped, thin-walled, unembryonated and measuring 0.019—0.021 \times 0.008—0.01.

The genus *Petrowospirura* was created by Matschulsky (Tr. GELAN 6: 315—322, 1952) for the type species *P. lynxi*. It belongs to the subfamily Spirocercinae Chitwood and Wehr, 1932 and family Spiruridae Oerley, 1885. At present the genus *Petrowospirura* Matschulsky, 1952 comprises only two species, namely *P. lynxi* Matschulsky, 1952 and *P. petrowi* Sadychov, 1957. The present form comes closest to *P. lynxi* in having six pairs of pedunculate papillae, of which four pairs precloacal and two pairs postcloacal, unequal and dissimilar spicules and a prominent gubernaculum. However, it differs from *P. lynxi* among other characters in the number of cephalic papillae and longitudinal ridges in the buccal capsule. Four pairs of cephalic papillae are present in the form under discussion, whereas only six in *P. lynxi*. Six longitudinal ridges are present in the buccal capsule of *P. lynxi*, whereas twelve in the present form. Cervical papillae, caudal alae and sessile caudal papillae are absent in the present form, unlike the latter. On the basis of these differences the present form can be considered a new species.

The new species is named in honour of Dr. V. Baruš D.Sc., Institute of Vertebrate Zoology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, Brno, Czechoslovakia, in respect and recognition of his contributions to nematodes.

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Fig. 2. *Petrowospirura barusi* sp.n.
a — Gubernaculum, b — En-face-view,
c — Posterior extremity of male.