Short Communications

ANOMOTAENIA PORATA SP. N. (CHOANOTAENIIDAE) FROM THE HOST PORZANA PARVA (RALLIFORMES)

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Abstract. A new cestode species, Anomotaenia porata sp.n. is described from the small intestine of Porzana parva (Rallidae). The cestode attains a length of 74—91 x 1.5—1.84 mm. Its rostellum is armed with a double crown of hooks, the longer measuring 30—32 μ, the shorter 24—26 μ. The small ovariun and vitellarium is situated in the hermaphroditic organs, followed by 40 to 45 testicles. The cirrus measures 150—180 x 30—42 μ. The uterus is of a networklike structure.

During investigation into the helminth fauna of wild birds we examined 10 small birds of the species Porzana parva. In the small intestine of one of these hosts we found 3 cestodes of the genus Anomotaenia Cohn, 1900, emend. Lopez—Neyra, 1952. Because this cestode differed in its taxonomic character from all the other cestode species of this genus, it was listed as a new species.

Anomotaenia porata sp. n.

Location: intestine
Locality: Vojka
3 cestodes found in one host.
The holotype is deposited in the collection of the museum of the Institute of Helminthology, Košice. Specimen no. 34/58a; 34/58b.

The cestode attains a length of 74—91 mm, a maximum width (posterior end) of 1.520—1.840 μ.

Description — holotype: The transverse diameter of the scolex in its native stage measures 504 μ. After fixation and embedding in Canada balsam its diameter is 669 μ. In the permanent mount the rostellum measures 90 μ; it is armed with a double row of hooks (Fig. 1. a, b, c). An exact count of the marginal rostellar hooks was not possible, because many of them were overlapping. Their approximate numbers were estimated to 42 (44?).

The oral hooks on the withdrawn rostellum measure 30—32 μ (radix 21 μ, gladius 13 μ). The hooks on the anterior row are 12 μ wide, those on the posterior
row, being smaller, measure 24—26 μ (radix 18 μ, gladius 9 μ). The maximum width of these hooks is 9 μ. The rostellar sac is spherical, native measurement 170—189 μ in diameter. We found neither spines nor hooks on the suckers.

The strobila described later in the text had no scolex, but recovering it together with the head from the intestine of one of the hosts and finding the structure of the last proglottid bearing the head to be identical with that of the youngest proglottids of the described strobila, we believed both these parts to belong together.

The juvenile proglottids, at first being wider than long gradually increase in length until the proglottids containing the developing networklike uteri were square while the gravid proglottids were longer than wide.

The genital pores open in irregular patterns. The genital organs of the male, consisting of 40—45 testicles, which follow the female genital organs, occupy the posterior portion of the proglottid (Fig. 2). The vas deferens forms numerous loops before entering the genital bursae, but some of the loops can be found also inside it. The bursa is moderately cone-shaped attaining a length of 150—180 μ. The cirrus pouch is widest at the proximal end (30—42 μ). The cirrus is indistinct. Compared with the width of the proglottid, the bursa is relatively small, usually extending only to the margin of the relatively wide excretory canals.

In view of the width of the proglottids the lobate ovary inside the hermaphroditic proglottids is small, averaging about 195—223 μ. The

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**Fig. 1.** Anomotaenia porata sp.n. a, b: rostellar hooks; c: mutual position of anterior and posterior row of hooks; d: scolex.

**Fig. 2.** Anomotaenia porata sp.n. — Hermaphroditic proglottid.
The genital pores open below the genital burse. At first, the uterus has a distinct
networklike structure. In proglottids with a developing uterus it is possible to
view the oval receptaculum seminis (size $237 \times 125-167 \mu$). The uterus retains
its networklike structure even when containing developed eggs. On permanent
mounts these eggs are oval, approximately $45 \mu$ long. On these preparations we
could neither distinguish filaments in the eggs nor other morphological structures.
Paratypes: On preparation no. 34/58c we found fragments of two other stro-
bila. As their morphology was within the range of variability of the holotype,
no description of the paratypes is given.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Of the species belonging to the genus *Anomotaenia*, *A. ovolaciniata* (Linstow,
1877), Fuhrmann, 1908, (see Mathevosssian 1963) has the same number of hooks
as *A. porata* sp.n. (?), but their size is smaller (15—18 $\mu$). The 40 hooks identified
in *A.* (s.l.) acollum Fuhrmann, 1907 are longer than those of *A. porata* sp.n. and
therefore it was impossible to establish the identity of both species.

There are also several species of the genus *Pseudanomotaenia* Mathevosssian,
1963 which bear about 40 hooks, e.g. *P. chelidonariae* (Spasskaya, 1957) (34—40
hooks). But the length of these hooks (9—12 $\mu$), their general habitus and morphology are so different that we had to exclude the possibility of their identity with
*A. porata* sp.n.

*Pseudanomotaenia rustica* (Neslobinsky, 1911) has 42—50 hooks, length
49—54 $\mu$. In addition to the different length of the hooks we found also other
morphological differences.

*A. porata* sp.n. should also be distinguished from *Pseudanomotaenia undu-
latoides* (Fuhrmann, 1908), which has 44—46 hooks, length 60—75 $\mu$.

REFERENCES

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