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HELMINTHS OF BIRDS FROM PEKING (CHINA)

In 1955, one of the authors (B. Ryšavý) collected various parasitic helminths from 65 birds from Peking and its vicinity. The hosts belonged to the species *Passer montanus satroulatus* (52 specimens), *Pica pica sericea* (7), *Columba livia* f. dom. (5) and *C. intermedia* (1). The parasitic worms recovered from these hosts belonged to 4 classes. Since our material was collected in a zoogeographically interesting area, a systematic list of the species is given:

Trematoda

1. *Branchylecithum fillum* (Dujardin, 1845); one trematode of this species was found in the liver of one specimen of *P. pica sericea*. *B. fillum* has been recorded from Azerbaijan (STROM Ž. K. and SONDAK V. A., Sborn. rabot posvyashch. 25-letiyu nauch. deyat. Prof. E. N. Palovskogo, pp. 348—357, Moscow—Leningrad 1953) from the host *Passer hispaniolensis hispaniolensis*.
2. *Brachylecithum* sp; a total of 19 trematodes of this species were obtained from the liver of 4 specimens of *P. montanus satroulatus*. A separate study will be published on their systematic position.

Cestoidea

1. *Choanotaenia parina* (Dujardin, 1845); two specimens were recovered from the intestine of *P. montanus satroulatus*. Until recently, this cestode species had been known to occur in the palearctic region only.
2. *Anomotaenia passerina* (Fuhrman, 1907); this cestode species was found in 8 *P. montanus satroulatus* (1—22 specimens). Several of the cestodes were very young specimens. Also this species is limited to the palearctic region.
3. *Anomotaenia* sp.; a total of 4 immature specimens were found in *P. pica sericea*. It was impossible to identify the individual

species because the rostellar hooks had fallen off and the sexual organs had not been fully developed.

4. *Anonchotaenia globata* (Linstow, 1879); found in 2 specimens of *P. montanus satroulatus*. This species has a cosmopolitan pattern of distribution.
5. *Raillietina* sp.; in one of the *P. montanus satroulatus* examined we found 3 juvenile specimens of this genus. The individual species could not be identified exactly.

Nematoda

1. *Ascaridia columbae* (Gmelin, 1790); a single female worm was found in the small intestine of *G. livia* f. dom. This species has a cosmopolitan pattern of distribution in birds of the order Columbiformes.
2. *Porrocaecum picae* (Rudolphi, 1819); recovered from 2 specimens of *P. pica sericea* from the small intestine (1 worm per host). The species had been redescribed in detail by G. Hartwich (Mitt. Zool. Mus. Berlin 35: 107—147, 1959) who also re-arranged its systematic position. Our material is in morphological and metrical accord with Hartwich's description. *P. picae* is a typical parasite of hosts of the family Corvidae.
3. *Ornithostrongylus quadriradiatus* (Stevenson, 1904); found in the small intestine of 4 *C. livia* f. dom. and in one *C. intermedia* (3—30 nematodes per host). The distribution of this species parasitizing birds of the order Columbiformes is almost cosmopolitan.
4. *Microtetrameres* sp.; female nematodes of the genus *Microtetrameres* Travassos, 1915 (1—3 nematodes per host), were found in the gizzard of 6 *P. montanus satroulatus;* because no male worms were found it was impossible to identify exactly the individual species.
5. *Pseudaprocta decorata* Hsi, 1933; this species was recovered from the body cavity of one specimen of *P. pica sericea* (4 nematodes). This nematode is typical of the Asian fauna; it parasitizes hosts of the family Corvidae, Sturnidae and Turdidae (see Sonin M. D., Osnovy nematodologii XVII/I, Izd. „Nauka" Moscow, pp. 1—360, 1966). The spicule length of the male worms in our material was 0.328 and 0.365 mm, the length of the gubernaculum 0.073 mm.
6. *Capillaria obsignata* Madsen, 1945; 6 nematodes found in the small intestine of one specimen of *C. livia* f. dom. A parasite of birds of the order Columbiformes and Galliformes with a cosmopolitan pattern of distribution.

Acanthocephala

7. *Centrorhynchus pinguis* van Cleave, 1918; this species was recovered from the small intestine of 5 *P. pica sericea* (3—6 worms per host). It is typical of the Asian fauna. In our material, the proboscis was armed with 14—15 hooks situated in each of the 34 longitudinal rows. It seems that the form *C. skrjabini* described by Petrochenko V. I. (Tr. gelm. lab. AN SSSR, vol. 2, pp. 114—127, 1949) is in synonymy with *C. pinguis*.

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