Observations on the Life Cycle of Parastrigea Robusta Szidat, 1928 (Trematoda: Strigeidae) in Czechoslovakia

A survey is given of the life cycle of trematodes of the genus Parastrigea Szidat, 1928 (species P. robusta), the developmental stages of which were found in southern Moravia (Lednice) and in southern Slovakia (Palkovičovo). In the field, encysted metacercariae were recovered from newts of the species Triturus vulgaris L. and T. cristatus Laur. Although numerous frogs, particularly Rana esculenta L. and Bombina bombina L. and tadpoles of various species were present in these localities, encysted metacercariae of this trematode genus were never found in them. At the same time we found molluscs in the field, from which cercariae of the genus Parastrigea emerged. In the laboratory we tried to infect larvae of Triturus vulgaris L., T. cristatus Laur., Salamandra salamandra L., and tadpoles of Rana esculenta L. and Bombina bombina L., but recovered from the newts only encysted metacercariae capable of development in the definitive host. Adult trematodes were recovered from ducklings of the species Anas platyrhynchos f. dom.

In the field, cercariae were found in these molluscs species: Anisus vortex L., Cyrillus albus (Müll.) and Segmentina nitida (Müll.). Under experimental conditions, cercariae developed in several species of the family Planorbidae: Planorbarius corneus L., Segmentina nitida (Müll.) and Anisus vortex L.

In the laboratory, we succeeded in concluding the life cycle of these trematodes. With the exception of the second intermediate host, our results were consistent with those of Odening (Z. Parasitenkd. 26: 185—196, 1965; Mh. Vct. Med. 21: 663—667, 1966). It is of interest that in Czechoslovakia neither in the field nor in the laboratory did metacercariae develop in frogs or tadpoles, but they developed readily in the larvae of newts.

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