

THE FINDING OF *VIKTOROCARA GUSCHANSKOI* (NEMATODA, SCHISTOROPHIDAE) IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Of the 8 known species received in the genus *Viktorocara* Guschanskaya, 1950, only the species *V. guschanskoi* parasitizes hosts of the family Laridae. This species was described from the USSR (Black Sea) for the hosts *Sterna sandvicensis* and *Hydroprogne tschegrava* by Leonov (Ueh. zap. Gorkovskogo gos. ped. in-ta 20: 266—296, 1958). Other findings from the USSR were recorded by Smogorzhevskaya (1964) from the Ukraine, and by Smetanina (1972) for the new host *Larus crassirostris* from the Far East.

The first finding of nematodes of the family Schistorophidae in Czechoslovakia was recorded by Macko (Biológia 19: 118—122, 1964), who arranged them provisionally to the species *Schistorophus acanthocephalicus* (Molin, 1860). This author found two female nematodes of this family in one host (*Sterna hirundo*) from the locality Senné (E.—Slovakia). A revision of the systematic position of these nematodes showed that they belong to the genus *Viktorocara*, and represent the species *V. guschanskoi* Leonov, 1958. *Sterna hirundo* is a new host for this nematode species.

In view of the fact that Leonov (1958) used immature females for his original description, we are completing it by data on the morpho-

logy and measurements of the nematodes from our material. Thin, delicate worms. Mouth with two small projecting pseudolabia and two minute papillae arising from its base. Four leaf-shaped cuticular lappets arise from the lips. The proximal portion of the lappets is attached to the body, the distal portion is loosely pendent. Overall length of female body 13.3—16.2 mm, width at the level of the oesophagus ending 0.12—0.13 mm. Length of cuticular lappets 0.027 mm. Length of vestibule 0.087—0.090 mm, maximum width 0.022 mm; length of glandular oesophagus 1.78—1.80 mm, maximum width 0.070 mm. Nerve ring at 0.16—0.18 mm from anterior body end, excretory pore at 0.24—0.27 mm. Very small cervical papillae situated at nerve ring level. Vulva shaped as a transverse slit, its margins rounded, unelevated, at 5.11—8.26 mm from posterior body end. Eggs with thick walls, size 0.036—0.039 × 0.022—0.024 mm. Mature eggs harbour a coiled larva. Posterior end of body moderately attenuating into a tail with a clearly rounded tip. Anus at 0.17—0.19 mm from the tip of the tail.

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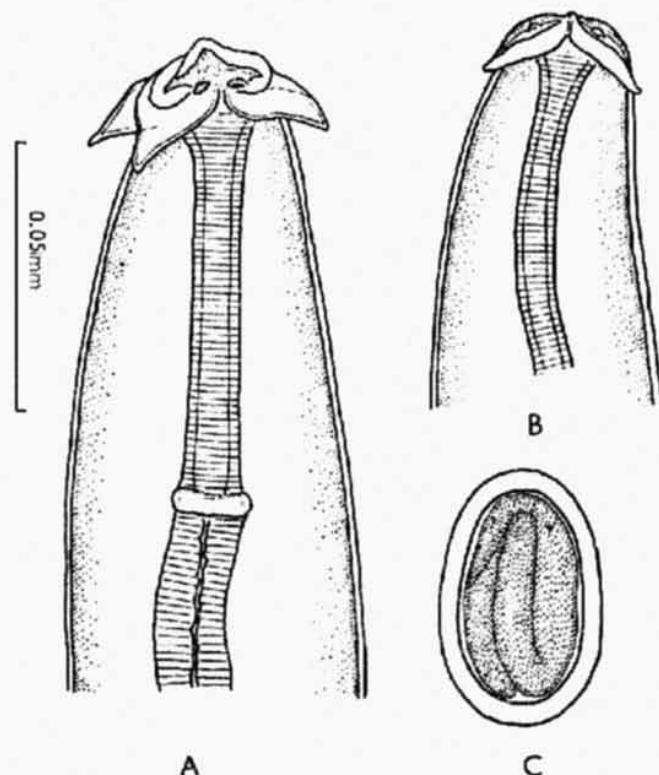


Fig. 1. *Viktorocara guschanskoi* Leonov, 1958 from the host *Sterna hirundo*. A, B — anterior part of female body (lateral and dorsal view); C — egg. Original.