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CYSTICERCIDS OF THE CESTODE APLOPARAKSIS DIMINUENS (LINSTOW, 1905) — (CESTOIDEA: HYMENOLEPIDIDAE)

During the helminthological expedition organized by the Helminthological Laboratory of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow, on the River Ob (Tyumen Region, District Salekhard) oligochaetes were collected and examined for helminths. The material was collected in tundra on the left bank of the River Ob, about 200 km north of polar circle. Three specimens of Tubificidae gen. sp. were found to contain cysticercoids of cestodes of the genus *Aploparaksis* Clere, 1903 in body cavities.

The cysticercoids are typical tailed diploecysts (according to the classification by Bondarenko and Kontrimavichus (Folia parasit. (Praha) 23: 39—44, 1976). The outer envelope of cysticercoids, surrounding the cyst proper, is elongated either on one or on both poles. Bondarenko and Kontrimavichus assume, in agreement with Mrázek (Zool. Jahrb. Abt. Anat. 39: 515—584, 1916), that this envelope is formed by a widened tail (cercomer). The anterior part of this envelope bears a feebly discernible canal opening into indistinct pore. The size of the envelope is $0.410 \times 0.480 \times 0.128$ — 0.144 mm. The cyst proper is of oval

shape and measures 0.160 — 0.172×0.106 to 0.113 mm. The outer thin hyaline layer of the cyst is 0.008 mm thick, the inner layer has transverse striations and is thicker, 0.008 to 0.012 mm. The scolex measures 0.086 — 0.094 mm in diameter. The rostellum is cylindrical and measures 0.050 — 0.054×0.022 — 0.024 mm. It has one row of hooks of aploparaksoid type, measuring 0.014 mm in length. Oval suckers measure 0.040 — 0.048×0.022 — 0.026 mm. Calcareous bodies, rounded or oval, measure 0.004 — 0.006 mm in diameter and are concentrated mainly in the anterior part of the cysticercoid. Embryonal hooks were not found.

A characteristic feature of the cysticercoid recovered are small rostellar hooks measuring only 0.014 mm. Of the known species of the genus *Aploparaksis*, only the species *A. brachyphallos* (Krabbe, 1869), *A. leonovi* Spassky, 1961, *A. galli* (Rausch, 1951), *A. sanjuanensis* Tubangui et Massilungan, 1937 and *A. skrjabinissima* Spasskaja, 1950 have been reported to possess hooks shorter than 0.020 mm. However, their hooks differ from those of our cysticercoids in the shape. The shape and size of rostellar hooks

in our cysticeroids correspond to the species *Aploparaksis diminuens* (Linstow, 1905) parasitizing birds of the order Charadriiformes, namely *Phalaropus fulicarius* (L.), *Tringa erythropus* (Pall.) and *Gallinago gallinago* (L.). *A. diminuens* (Linstow, 1905) has been reported from these hosts in various regions of Siberia (Spasskaya L. P., Tsestody ptits SSSR, Gimnolepididy, Izd. Nauka, pp. 1-698, 1966) and in Tuva (Spasskaya L. P., Spassky A. A., Tsestody ptits Tuvy, Izd. Shtiintza, Kishinev, pp. 1-252, 1971). With regard to the frequent

occurrence of this cestode in Siberia, to the occurrence of its hosts in northern part of Tyumen Region and to complete identity in the morphology and measurements of rostellar hooks we assign the cysticeroids recovered by us to the species *A. diminuens*.

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