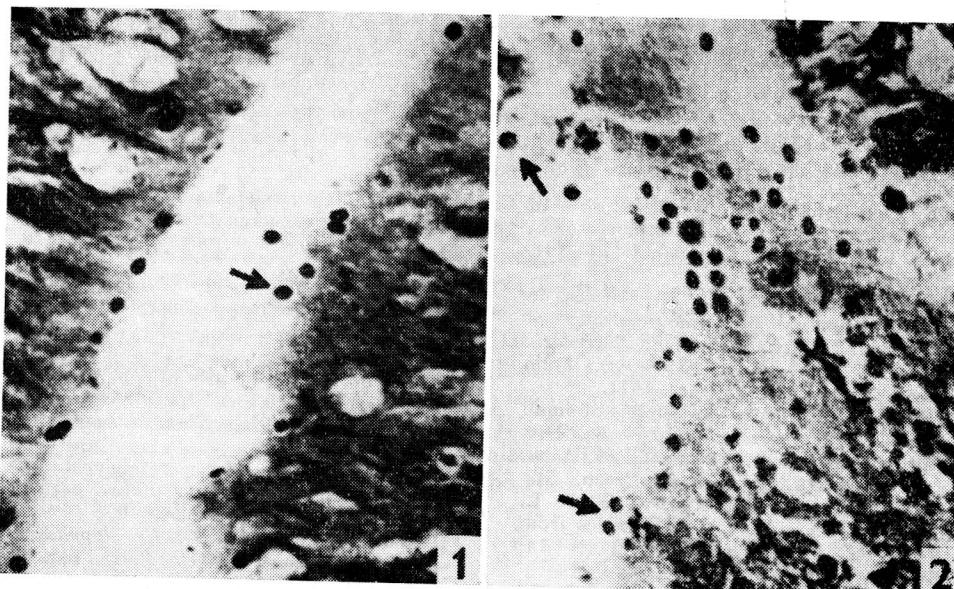


CRYPTOSPORIDIUM SP. IN CYPRINUS CARPIO LINNÉ, 1758  
IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA



Figs. 1, 2. The developmental stages of *Cryptosporidium* sp. (arrows) from carp. Giemsa stain ( $\times 500$ ).

Coccidia of the genus *Cryptosporidium* occur in young animals of almost all economically important species (calves, piglets, lambs, colts), as well as in rabbits, cats, monkeys, guinea-pigs, and mice. Cryptosporidial infections have been detected also in birds — broilers, turkeys and domestic geese. Lately even cases of human cryptosporidiosis have been reported still more frequently.

In 1981, Hoover et al. (J. Fish Diseases 4: 425—428, 1981) published a short communication describing the first case of enteric cryptosporidiosis in tropical sea fish *Naso lituratus* Bloch et Schneider, 1801. The authors found spherical organisms measuring 2—4  $\mu\text{m}$  on the surface of microvilli of intestinal mucosa of this host. They proposed to name this cryptosporidian *Cryptosporidium nasoris*, because they supposed cryptosporidians to be host-specific.

With regard to this paper we have performed orientation examinations of 35 carps in South

Bohemia. In five of them, spherical to oval organisms measuring 1.5—4  $\mu\text{m}$  were found on the surface of villi in the middle part of intestine. These organisms resembled in their structure and morphology the developmental stages of *Cryptosporidium* sp. (Figs. 1, 2) from other hosts and conformed to the descriptions of cryptosporidians reported from the above-mentioned animal species.

The elucidation of the occurrence of *Cryptosporidium* sp. in carp, which is of a great economic importance in our country, requires detailed studies of further material due to the fact that developmental stages of coccidia, e.g. *Epiëimeria anguillae*, may also occur on the surface of villi of intestinal mucosa.

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