

STUDIES ON HYMENOLEPIDIDEAN CESTODE GENUS *VAMPIROLEPIS* (SPASSKY,1954) FROM *ACRIDOTHERUS TRISTIS* WITH DESCRIPTION OF NEW SPECIES

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ABSTRACT : The present paper deals with new species of genus *Vampirolepis* (Spassy,1954) from the intestine of *Acridotherus tristis*. The new form differs from all known species of genus with scolex distinctly marked off from strobila, oval rostellum, mature proglottids broader than long, testes three in number, elongated cirrus pouch, vas deference thin, straight, ovary distinctly bilobed, vitelline gland post ovarian, genital pore unilateral.

Key words : Cestode, Hymenolepididaen, *Vampirolepis*.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Vampirolepis* was erected by Spassky (1954) with type species, *V.somenovi*,1954 from *Erythrina erythrina* at Smotenak, Oblast. Later on Malhotra and Kapoor added *V.somariensis* from *T.striatus* 1980 at Allahabad.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In the course of parasitological study avian cestodes of genus *Vampirolepis* were collected from the intestine of *Acridotherus tristis*. Cestodes are flattened, preserved in 4% formalin, stained with Harri's Haematoxylin, dehydrated through graded alcohol, cleared in xylene and mounted in DPX. Fig.1 were made with Camera Lucida. Measurements are in millimeter. Worms are medium, having distinct scolex, immature and mature proglottids.

Scolex distinctly marked off from strobila, broader at the middle and slightly tapering towards anterior ends and measures 0.590-0.779 in length and 0.636-0.832 in breadth. Rostellum oval, elongated, measures 0.303-0.333 in length and 0.151-0.264 in breadth. Rostellar sac larger, elongated oval extends posteriorly upto the posterior margin of suckers and measures 0.454-0.499 in length and 0.196-0.260 in breadth. Rostellum armed with single circle of hooks 10-12 in number. Hooks single type with long handles bipronged and measures 0.146-0.155 in length and 0.017-0.025 in breadth.

Four suckers are of medium, rounded and measures 0.227-0.257 in diameter, segmentation starts from immediately after scolex.

Mature segments broader than long, almost six times broader and measures 1.188-1.285 in length and 0.223-0.222 in breadth. Testes three in number, medium, oval arranged in a triangle one poral side two aporal side and measures 0.072-0.077 in length and 0.067-0.072 in breadth. Cirrus pouch elon-

gated almost at middle of segment, downward extends beyond longitudinal excretory canal and measures 0.178-0.193 in length and 0.048-0.081 in breadth, cirrus thin, straight within cirrus pouch and measures 0.199 in length and 0.004-0.009 in breadth. Vas deferens straight upwards directed and measures 0.178 in length and 0.149 in breadth.

Ovary distinctly bilobed placed at central medulla and both lobes almost equal in size, and each lobe measures 0.266-0.291 in length and 0.116-0.145 in breadth. Vagina thin tube, posterior to cirrus pouch, run for a short distance take upward curve, enlarges into a receptaculum seminis, reaches and open into ootype and measures 0.668-0.679 in length and 0.004-0.009 in breadth. Receptaculum seminis, swollen tube reach to ootype and measures 0.030-0.034 in length and 0.006-0.008 in breadth ootype, medium, rounded and measures 0.019-0.024 in diameter. Vitelline gland medium post ovarian with irregular margin having short blunt acini and measures 0.026-0.033 in length and 0.033-0.043 in breadth. Genital pore unilateral, posterior half of segment and measures 0.014-0.019 in length and 0.009-0.014 in breadth.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Genus *Vampirolepis* from birds is erected by Spassky in 1954 from *Erythrine erythrina* as type species *Vampirolepis somenovi*. Malhotra and Kapoor added *Vampirolepis somariensis*,1980 from *Turdoides striatus* at Allahabad (U.P.).

The worm under discussion differs from *Vampirolepis somenovi*, in number of rostellar hooks (10-12 as against 8-10) position of testes (do not overlap each other and arranged in a triangle as against testes overlap each other in a transverse row) in structure and position of cirrus pouch (elongated extend beyond excretory canal and do not reach up to centre of segment as against comparatively short reaches up to longitudinal excretory canal) and in shape of vitelline gland medium as against irregular.

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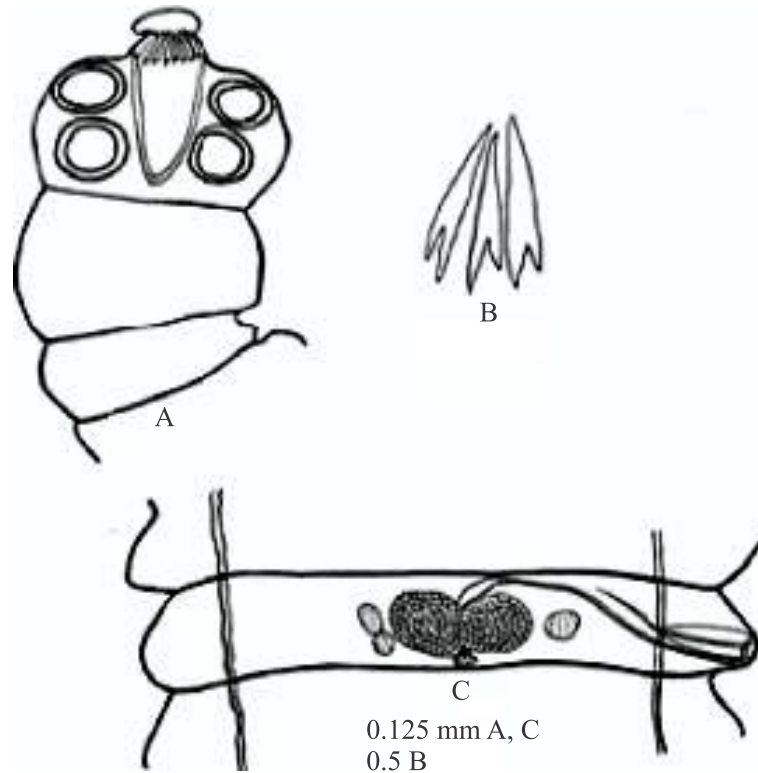


Fig. 1 *Vampirolepis jadhavae* n.sp.
A. Scolex, B. Hooks, C. Mature segment

The present worm differs from the *V. somariensis* in the number of the rostellar hooks (10-12 as against 8-10). In position of testes (do not overlap each other and arranged in a triangular as against (do not overlap each other and in transverse row), in structure and position of cirrus pouch (do not reach up to centre of segment as against reaches up to centre of the segment) and in shape of vitelline gland (medium irregular as against medium triangular).

These distinct morphological features justify creation

of new species to accommodate these cestodes and hence name *Vampirolepis jadhavae* n.sp. is proposed in honour of Late. Prof. Dr. Baba V. Jadhav.

Host : *Acridotherus tristis*

Type species : *Vampirolepis jadhavae* sp. nov.

Location : Intestine

Locality : Kandhar, Nanded (M.S.)

Date of Collection : 20th October, 1990.

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