



REDISCRPTION OF GYMNORHYNCHUS GIGAS CURVIER, 1817.

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ABSTRACT

The Present communication deals with cestode parasites from intestine of carcharias acutus at waltair A.P. (East coast of India), India. Scolex medium, Cylindrical, divided into three parts, anterior Parabothridia, Middle-pars vaginalis, posterior, pars belosa. Bothridia oval, elongated, consists of four protrucible proboscides (Tentacles), having five rows of hooks, mature segment longer than broad, caraspedote, testes round, preovarian, 32-35 in number, cirrus pouch large, oval, cirrus thin vasdeferens thin, short, ovary, bilobed, vagina, thick, wide tube, ootype oval, vitellaria follicular oval.

KEYWORDS : Cestode, Gymnorhynchidae

Eucestoda wardle, mcleod and radino vasky, 1974. Trypanorhyncha- Diesing, 1863. Gymnorhynchidae- Dolfus, 1935. Gymnorhynchus Reddoiphi, 1819. Gymnorhynchus gigas- curvier, 1817.

Description – Seven specimens of the cestode parasites were collected from the intestine of carcharias acutus at waltair, A.P. (East coast of India), scolex medium in length, cylindrical, measures 4.681 in length, 0.397-0.693, width, which is divided into three parts anterior part pars bothridialis, middle parts pars vaginalis, posterior part paras bulbosa. The paras bothridialis short, small in size, consists of 4 overlapped bothridia, through which four, armed tentacles protrude, measures 0.397-0.55 in length, 0.170-0.238 in width. The pars vaginalis is consisting of long tubes, which are connected anteriorly to the tentacles, posteriorly to the bulbs, unarmed tubes, measures 2.386-2.659 in length, 0.056-0.079 in width. The paras bulbosa bears four, long tubular bulbs, placed at the extreme posterior region of the scolex, measures 1.517 in length, 0.178-0.285 in width.

The bothridia oval shape, elongated consists four protrucible proboscides (Tentacles), measure 1.580 length 0.160 breadth. The tentacles long, armed with five rows of hooks, hooks crowded, four hooks are alike i.e. blunt, single, prolonged, curved, small, round, at one end, pointed at another end, the 5th hooks bipronged, large, prongs unequal size, short, wide handle, totally different than other hooks, small hooks measure 0.077-0.086 length, 0.008-0.015 breadth, whereas the 5th hook measures 0.103 length, 0.01-0.034 breadth. The mature segments are longer than broad, caraspedote, measure 1.022 length, 0.33-0.4, breadth. Testes round shape, in 2-3 rows preovarian, situated in the middle of the segments. 32-35 in number, measures 0.022-0.045 dia. The cirrus punch is large in size, oval in shape, extends up to the middle of the segments measures 0.212 length, 0.011-0.210 breadth. Cirrus a straight tube measures 0.220 length, 0.015-0.05 breadth. Vas deferens thin, short, anteriorly directed, measures 0.055 length, 0.015 breadth.

The ovary bilobed, with irregular margin, follicular, situated near posterior margin of the segments, measures 0.287 length, 0.143 breadth. The vagina a thick, wide tube, starts from the genital pore reaches, opens into the ootype, posterior to the cirrus pouch coiled measure 0.5445 in length 0.015-0.16 breadth.

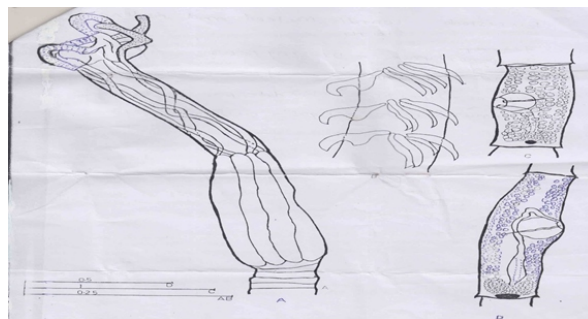
The ootype oval in shape, medium in size, post ovarian, near the posterior margin of the segments, measures 0.030 length 0.068 breadth, the genital, pores are marginal, small in size oval in shape, measure 0.13 in length, 0.20 in breadth.

The vitellaria are follicular, oval in shape, in two rows, on each lateral side of the segments, in cortical, subcortical region of the segments, preovarian, from ovary to the anterior margin of the segment except the cirrus pouch region.

Material and Methods:

The present species was collected from the intestine of carcharias

acutus, from waltair A.P. (East Coast of India), India. The worms were collected and preserved in 4% formalin and stained with harris haematoxyline, dehydrated and cleared in xylene, mounted on D.P.X. Drawings made with the aid of camera Lucida Identification was carried out with the help of system helminthes Vol. II, Yamaguti (1959), all measurements in mm.



Discussion : After going through the literature the worm under discussion turned out to be *Gymnorhynchus gigas* Curvier, 1817. However it differs from it in some characters which are as follows.

- 1) The present cestode differs from it in the arrangement of hooks (5 rows of hooks, out of 4 hooks are the same size, blunt, round at one end and pointed at another end, fifth is bifurcated as against large in size (saber like).
- 2) The present worm differs from the same, in the number of testes (32-35 in number, round as against 100) post ovarian posterior to the ovary, arranged in two groups.
- 3) The present tapeworms differs from it, in the length of the mature segments (longer than broad, more than double in length as against six times border than long)

As the characters are minor, it is red scribed here as *Gymnorhynchus gigas* Curvier, 1817. Curvier reported his worms from *Dasybatus walas* from bank of Ceylon, where as these worms are being reported from *Carcharias acutus*, at waltair A.P. (East coast of India), India.

Type species- *Gymnorhynchus gigas* Curvier, 1817.

Host- *Carcharias acutus*

Habitat- Waltair A.P. (East Coast of India)

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