



## Studies on Avian Cestode Genus *Cotugnia* Diamare, 1893 (Cestoda: Davaineidae, Fuhrmann 1907) From *Gallus Gallus Domesticus*

## KEYWORDS

Cestoda, *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov., Davaineidae, *Gallus gallus domesticus*.

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**ABSTRACT** *The present investigation deals with a new species of the genus Cotugnia, Diamare 1893 from the intestine of Gallus gallus domesticus, from Osmanabad (M.S.) of India. The new species Cotugnia osmanabadensis Sp.Nov. comes closer to all known species of the genus Cotugnia in general topography of organ but differs due to having scolex globular, four rounded suckers, rosetellum large and oval, rectangular with hooks, mature segments broader than long, testes 110-120 in numbers, oval to rounded and Post-ovarian, cirrus pouch large oval and elongated, cirrus short, thin and slightly curved, vas deferens tubular, curved directed anteriorly, genital pores large oval and marginal vagina posterior to cirrus pouch and ovary compact, oval in shape.*

## INTRODUCTION

Birds are important components of ecosystem. They are important from the ecological and economical point of view. Man uses many birds as delicious and nutritious food. Similarly birds also produce some important products like meat, eggs and beautiful feathers. Parasites are extremely abundant and diverse in nature, representing a substantial portion of global biodiversity. The infections of cestode parasites are found in birds. There are no estimates of population suffering from cestode infection but infections are very common in people who are eating poorly cooked or uncooked meat, unhygienic habitats and poor sanitation. Infection leads to anemia. They infected man and also invade domestic birds and wildlife.

Genus *Cotugnia* was erected by Diamare, 1893 with type species *C.digonopora* (Pasquale, 1890) collected from domestic fowl. So far following 39 species of the avian cestode Genus *Cotugina* are reported.

1. *C. digonopora* (Pasquale, 1890), Diamare, 1893.
2. *C.polyacantha*, Fuhrmann, 1909.
3. *C. cuneatea tenuis*, Meggitt, 1924.
4. *C. joyeuxi*, Baer, 1925.
5. *C. parva*, Baer, 1925.
6. *C. fleari*, Meggitt, 1927.
7. *C. bahli*, Johri, 1934.
8. *C. intermedia*, Johri, 1934.
9. *C. noctua*, Johri, 1934.
10. *C. taiwanensis*, Yamaguti, 1935.
11. *C. rimandoi*, Tubanguit et Masilungan, 1937.
12. *C. magna*, Burt, 1940.
13. *C. aurangabadensis*, Shinde, 1969.
14. *C. columbae*, Shinde, 1969.
15. *C. srivastavi*, Malviya and Datta, 1970.
16. *C. magdoubii*, Magzoubi and Kasim, 1980.
17. *C. satpulensis*, Malhotra and Capoor, 1983.
18. *C. yamagutii*, Shinde, 1985.
19. *C. vishakhapatnamensis*, Kolluri, 1988.
20. *C. rajivji*, Jadhav et. al., 1994.
21. *C. kamatiensis*, Kharade and Shinde, 1995.
22. *C. chengmaii*, C. Wongsawad and Jadhav 1998.
23. *C. manishae*, Shinde, 1999.
24. *C. ganguae*, Shinde, 1999.
25. *C. mehdi*, Mahajan et.al., 1999.
26. *C. alii*, Shinde et.al., 2002.
27. *C. sillodensis*, Jadhav et.al., 2003.

28. *C. singhi*, Pawar et.al., 2004.
29. *C. lohaensis*, Jadhav et.al., 2004.
30. *C.shankari*, Tat and Jadhav 2005.
31. *C. liviae*, Patil et.al., 2005.
32. *C.streptopelii*, G.P. Jadhav et. al., 2009.
33. *C. hafezzi* Nanware et. al., 2010
34. *C. indiana* Kasar et. al., 2010
35. *C.indiana minor* Garad et. al., 2010
36. *C. tetragona* Nanware et. al., 2011
37. *C.orientalis* Nanware et. al., 2011
38. *Cotugnia domestica* Shinde et.al.,2012
39. *C. diamaraei* Nanware and Bhure,2013

## RESEARCH METHODS

Forty Seven cestodes were collected from the intestine of *Gallus gallus domesticus* at Osmanabd M.S.India during the period of March, 2009 to March, 2011. Four parasites are taken for Morphological studies. These are preserved in 4% formalin and passed in alcoholic grades, stained with Haematoxyline and mount in D.P.X.. Camera lucida drawings were prepared by research microscope. All the measurements are recorded in millimeter. The collected parasites were prepared for identification by usual standard methods (Gerald D. Schmidt, 1934; Yamaguti, S., 1959; Khalil, Jones and Bray,1994 and Hiware, Jadhav and Mohekar, 2003 ).

## RESEARCH FINDING AND ANALYSIS

(Description Based on Seven alike specimens) (*Cotugnia Diamarei* Sp.Nov. Figure- 1)  
Scolex is globular in shape measures 0.3349 (0.3300-0.3398) in length and 0.3058 (0.2184-0.3980) in width. The scolex bears four suckers almost of equal size, rounded, muscular and measures 0.1067 (0.0970-0.1165) in length and 0.1092 (0.0970-0.1262) in width. Rostellum large, oval, rectangular with hooks and measures 0.0849 (0.0728-0.0970) in length and 0.1771 (0.1699-0.1844) in width. The hooks are 60 to 80 in numbers in one row in rosetellum, measures 0.0164 (0.0155-0.0173) in length and 0.0043 (0.0017-0.0069) in width. The scolex followed by short neck, which is measured 0.1553 (0.1456-0.1650) in length and 0.0776 (0.0582-0.0970) in width.

The mature segments almost three times broader than long and measures 0.7402 (0.5048-0.8009) in length and 2.6092 (2.5485-2.6699) in width and each segment with double set of reproductive organs. The testes are 110-120 in numbers, oval to rounded in shape placed at the posterior side of the segments

entirely post-ovarian and measures 0.03883 (0.3398-0.04268) in length and 0.03002 (0.0292-0.03398) in width. Cirrus pouch is large, oval, elongated and measures 0.1747 (0.1699-0.1796) in length and 0.0849 (0.0728-0.0970) in width. Cirrus short, thin, slightly curved within the cirrus pouch and measures 0.1626 (0.1601-0.1650) in length and 0.0121 (0.0097-0.0145) in width and forms vas deferens which is tubular, curved, directed anteriorly and measures 0.3276 (0.3253-0.3300) in length and 0.0097 (0.0048-0.0145) in width. Cirrus and vagina is opening from the common genital pores. Which is large, oval in shape, marginal and measures 0.0194 (0.0145-0.0242) in length and 0.06067 (0.0582-0.0631) in width. Vagina is a thin tube, opens from the genital pores, posterior to cirrus pouch and measures 0.5485 (0.5436-0.5533) in length and 0.0169 (0.0145-0.0194) in width and forms receptaculum seminis. Which is thin, short tubular and reaches to ootype and measures 0.0339 (0.0291-0.0388) in length and 0.0169 (0.0097-0.0242) in width. The ootype is medium, rounded present to posterior side of the ovary and measures 0.0194 in diameter. The ovary is compact, rounded placed at the middle of the segments and measures 0.0825 (0.0776-0.0873) length and 0.154 (1.1456-0.1553) in width. The vitelline glands are rounded, Post-ovarian and measures 0.0266 in diameter. Longitudinal excretory canal present on either sides of the segments and measures 0.7063 (0.6990-0.7038) in length and 0.0266 (0.0242-0.0291) in width.

## DISCUSSION

The genus *Cotugnia* was established by Diamare (1893), with its type species *C.diagnopora* (Pasquale, 1890), subsequently following thirty seven species are known so far viz. *C.digonopora* (Pasquale, 1890) Diamare, 1893; *C.polyacantha* Fuhrmann, 1909; *C.cuneata tenuis* Meggitt, 1924; *C.joyeuxi* Baer, 1925; *C.parva* Baer, 1925; *C.fleari* Meggitt, 1927; *C.bahli* Johri, 1934; *C.intermedia* Johri, 1934; *C.noctua* Johri, 1934; *C.taiwanensis*, Yamaguti, 1935; *C.rimandoi* Tubangui et. Masilungam, 1937; *C.magna* Burt, 1940; *C.aurangabadensis* Shinde, 1969; *C.columbae*, Shinde 1969; *C.srivastavi* Malviya and Datta, 1970; *C.magdoubii* Magzoubi and Kasim, 1980; *C.satpulensis* Malhotra and Capoor, 1983; *C.yamagutii* Shinde, 1985; *C.vishakhapatnamensis* Kolluri, 1988; *C.rajivji* Jadhav et.al., 1994; *C.kamatensis* Kharade and Shinde, 1995; *C.chengmai* C. Wongsawad and Jadhav, 1988; *C.manishae* Shinde, 1999; *C.ganguae* Shinde, 1999; *C.mehdii* Mahajan et.al., 1999; *C.alii* Shinde et.al., 2002; *C.sillodensis* Jadhav et.al., 2004; *C.singhi* Pawar et.al., 2004; *C.lohaensis* Jadhav et.al., 2004; *C.shankari* Tat and Jadhav 2005; *C.liviae* Patil et.al., 2005; *C.streptopelii* G.P. Jadhav et.al. 2009. *C.hafezzi* Nanware et. al., 2010; *C.indiana* Kasar et. al., 2010; *C.indiana* minor Garad et.al., 2010, *C.tetragona* Nanware et. al., 2011, *C.orientalis* Nanware et. al., 2011. Later on *Cotugnia domestica* is added by Shinde et.al., 2012. Recently Nanware and Bhure, 2013 added *C.diamarei* from *Gallus domestica*.

The present parasite under discussion is having scolex globular, four rounded suckers, rosetellum large and oval, rectangular with hooks, mature segments broader than long, testes 110-120 in numbers, oval to rounded and Post-ovarian, cirrus pouch large oval and elongated, cirrus short, thin and slightly curved, vas deferens tubular, curved directed anteriorly, genital pores large oval and marginal vagina posterior to cirrus pouch and ovary compact, oval in shape.

- 1) The present form comes closer to all reported above mentioned species in general topography of organs, but differs from *C.digonopora* Pasquale 1890, Diamare, 1893 in the size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 1.5), size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 1.5, Rostellar hooks (53-55Vs numerous), Number of testes (62 in number Vs 100-150) and size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm Vs 0.300).
- 2) It differs from *C.polyacantha* Fuhrmann, 1909, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.45), size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.22), Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 420), Number of testes 62 Vs

100), size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm Vs 0.180) and reported from intestine of *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.

- 3) The present specimen differs from *C.cuneata tenuis* Meggitt, 1924 due to shape and size of scolex (Oval, 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs rounded, 0.26), Rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs rostellum rounded, 0.12) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*
- 4) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.joyeuxi* Baer, 1925; by having Size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.67); size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.19); Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 in number Vs 250); Number of testes (62 Vs 30-50); size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.075) .
- 5) It differs from *C. parva* Baer, 1925, due to size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs. 0.49-0.68x 0.69-0.85 mm). Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm where as 0.15); Rostellar hooks (53-55 where as 378-396), Testes (62 in number where as 32-41 in numbers), size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.196-0.106) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
- 6) The present form differs from *C.fleari* Meggitt, 1927, in having size of Scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.45-0.58), Testes (62 Vs 28-44), size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09mm Vs 0.29-0.31 mm and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*
- 7) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.bahli* Johri, 1934 due to Size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.50, Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.34, number of rostellar hooks 53-55 Vs 332; Testes 62 Vs 69-74 in number; size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm Vs 0.215-0.223.
- 8) It differs from *C.intermedia* Johri, 1934 in having Size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.44-0.525 mm), Number of testes (62 Vs 69-74); size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09mm Vs 0.215-0.225).
- 9) The present form differs from *C.noctua* Johri, 1934 by having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.51, size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.225, Number of testes 62 Vs 170-182, size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09mm Vs 0.176-0.200.
- 10) The present form differs from *C.taiwanensis* Yamaguti, 1935 due to size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.54-0.74 mm, The size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.44, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 200), Number of testes (62 Vs 12-13) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*
- 11) It differs from *C.rimandoi* Tubangui et Masilungam, 1937 in Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 against 300), Number of testes (62 against 100-136) and described from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
- 12) The new form differs from *C.magna* Burt, 1940, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm against 0.58-0.62); Size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm against 0.285-0.315), Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 against 480-500); Number of testes (62 against 150); size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm against 0.238-0.270) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
- 13) The present Tapeworms differs from *C.aurangabaensis* Shinde 1969, in having shape and size of scolex (Oval, 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs Broad, 0.483 mm) Rostellum large, oval, placed in centre of scolex, 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm against flat, 0.300 mm, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 against 500), testes oval to rounded, 62 against small rounded, 80-90; Cirrus pouch elongated, 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 against slender, 1.30 x 1.040 mm in length and breadth, Ovary bilobed against compact and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
- 14) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.columbae* Shinde, 1969, due to shape and size of scolex (Oval, 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs wide, 0.54-0.74 mm), size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.447), Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 1200), Number of testes (62 Vs 12-14), shape and size of cirrus pouch (elongated, 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs narrow,

- short, 0.3), Vitelline gland (compact, large Vs absent) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
- 15) The present specimen differs from *C.srivastavi* Malviya and Dutta, 1970, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.726), size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.446), Number of testes (62 Vs 80-85) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 16) It differs from *C.magdoubii*, Magzoubi and Kasim, 1980, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs (0.44-0.55); size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.25-0.44); size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.15-0.18) and reported from the intestine of *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 17) The present form differs from *C.satpulensis* Malhotra and Capoor, 1983, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.535), Size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.230), Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 337), Number of testes (62 Vs 43-52), size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm Vs 0.190-0.283 mm) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 18) It differs from *C.yamagutii* Shinde et.al., 1985 in having shape and size of scolex Oval, (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.51-0.60 mm); Rostellum large, oval, 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs rounded, 0.26-0.27; Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 500), Number of testes (62 Vs 190-200), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm as against 0.005-0.132 x 0.044-0.0197 mm in length and breadth) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 19) The present worm differs from *C.vishakhapatnamensis* Kolluri 1988, by having size of scolex Oval, 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 28-35 x 0.336-1.056.
  - 20) The present cestode differs from *C.rajivji* Jadhav et.al., 1994, in having shape and size of scolex (Oval, 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs oval, 0.62-1.006), size of rostellum (0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs (0.37-0.44 mm), Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 350-400), Number of testes (62 Vs 60-65), size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 mm Vs 0.280-0.282).
  - 21) It differs from *C.kamatensis* Kharade and Shinde, 1995, by having shape and size of scolex Oval, (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs squarish, 0.84-1.00x 0.917-1.099), Shape and size of rostellum large, 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs small, 0.018x 0.152 mm, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 200-210); Number of testes (62 Vs 95-105); shape and size of cirrus pouch medium, elongated, 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 as against oval, cylindrical, 0.005-0.60 mm), Vagina posterior to cirrus pouch against anterior to cirrus pouch.
  - 22) The present Tapeworm differs from *C.chengmaii* C.Wangsawad et.al, 1998, by having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.58x 0.738), Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.194 x 0.249 mm, Number of testes (62 Vs 30-35), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.32 x 0.043).
  - 23) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.manishae* Shinde et.al., 1999, in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.485, Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.22 x 0.227 mm, Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 110-120), Number of testes (62 Vs 85-90) Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09) Vs (0.083-0.121 x 0.030-0.038), Vitelline gland compact, large Vs oval to triangular and collected from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 24) The present worm differs from *C.ganguae* Shinde et.al, 1999, in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.529 x 0.636, Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.189 x 0.216 mm, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 275-300), Number of testes (62 Vs 155-160), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09) mm Vs 0.260 mm in length and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Corvus splendens*.
  - 25) The present cestode differs from *C.mehdii* Mahajan et.al., 1999, due to size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.985 x 1.516). Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.129 x 0.182 mm, Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 110), Number of testes (62 Vs 140-150); size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.530.
  - 26) The present tapeworm differs from *C.alii*, Shinde et.al. 2002, in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm as against 0.450-0.436 x 0.639-0.657, Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.279x0.436-0.315 mm, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 as against 100-110), Number of testes (62 as against 80-85), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 as against 0.241-0.191 x 0.029-0.024) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 27) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.sillodensis* Jadhav et.al. 2003, in having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.851-1.192 x 1.192-1.395), Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.170 x 0.281); Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 220-250), Size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.067-0.092 x 0.035.
  - 28) The present worm differs from *C.singhi* Pawar S.B. et.al., 2004, by having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.363 x 0.436-0.417), Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.154 x 0.255-0.215 mm, Number of rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 200-210), Number of testes (62 Vs 65-70), Size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.229-0.159 x 0.033-0.024.
  - 29) The present worm differs from *C.lohaensis*, Jadhav et.al., 2004 by having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.590-0.660 x 0.471-0.757), Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.227 x 0.242 mm, Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 190-210), Number of testes (62 Vs 28-30), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09) Vs (0.086-0.097 x 0.004-0.009) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 30) The *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp.Nov. differs from *C.shankari* Tat and Jadhav, 2005, by having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.947-1.000 x 0.955-1.175), Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.049-0.092 x 0.182-0.213 mm, Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 105-205), Number of testes (62 Vs 27-40), Size of cirrus pouch 0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.098-0.030 and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 31) The present cestode differs from *C.liviae* Patil et.al, 2005, in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 0.369 x 0.359-0.437 mm, Size of rostellum 0.21-0.25 x 0.39-0.46 mm Vs 0.175-0.0189 x 0.097-0.131 mm, Number of hooks (53-55 Vs 250-270), Number of testes 62 Vs 120-125(123) and size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.225 x 0.068) and reported from the intestine of *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 32) It differs from *C. streptopelli* G.P. Jadhav et. al., 2009, by having size of scolex (0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm as against 8.04-5.36 x 9.82-5.36), Number of testes (62 as against 27-30), Size of ovary (0.12 x 0.37 Vs 5.36-4.46 x 5.34-4.46).
  - 33) The *Cotugnia diamarei* Sp.Nov. differs from the *Cotugnia hafezzi* Nanware et. al., 2010 in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs quadrangular 1.245 x 1.086, Number of Rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 55-60), Number of testes (62 Vs 150-160), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.23 x 0.11).
  - 34) The present form differs from *Cotugnia indiana* Kasar et. al., 2010 in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs squarish, 0.58 x 0.54, Number of Rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 100-120), Number of testes (62 Vs 115-120), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.189 x 0.0079) and reported from *Gallus gallus domesticus* Vs *Columba livia*.
  - 35) The présent cestode differs from *C.indiana minor* Garad et. al., 2010 in having scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs squarish, rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 400-415) in numbers, testes(62 Vs 70-75) in numbers.
  - 36) It differs from the *Cotugnia tetragona* Nanware et. al., 2011 in having size of scolex 0.59 -0.72 x 0.68-1.04



mm Vs tetragonal, large 0.927 x 0.773, Number of Rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 120-130), Number of testes (62 Vs 60-70), Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.185 x 0.090) and reported from Gallus gallus domesticus Vs Columba livia.

- 37) The present form differs from *Cotugnia orientalis* Nanware et. al., 2011 in having size of scolex 0.59-0.72 x 0.68-1.04 mm Vs 1.266 (1.102-1.431) x 0.927 (0.901-0.954), Number of Rostellar hooks (53-55 Vs 110-120), Number of testes (62 Vs 45-50) and Size of cirrus pouch (0.283-0.289 x 0.03-0.09 Vs 0.168 x 0.128).
- 38) The *C. osmanabadensis* Sp. Nov. differs from *C. domestica* Shinde et. al., 2012 in having Scolex oval, Suckers four, oval to rounded, arranged in two groups, Rostellum oval, placed in anterior region of scolex and having rostellar ring, Rostellar hooks 18-20 in numbers, arranged in a single circle, Neck short, Mature proglottids 2 times broader than long, Testes 40-50 in numbers, oval to rounded, Cirrus pouch cylindrical, Cirrus short, coiled tube contained within cirrus pouch, Vas deferens thin tube, Vagina posterior to cirrus pouch, and Ovary compact, bean shaped.
- 39) It differs from *Cotugnia diamarei* Nanware and Bhure 2013 in having Scolex large, oval, Suckers four, oval to rounded, arranged in four corners, Rostellum oval, large, placed in anterior region of scolex and having rostellar ring, Rostellar hooks 53-55 in numbers, 'V' shaped, arranged in a single circle, Neck short, Mature proglottids three times broader than long, Testes 62 in numbers, oval to rounded, postovarian, Cirrus pouch cylindrical, Cirrus short, curved tube contained within cirrus pouch, Vas deferens thin, curved, Vagina posterior to cirrus pouch, and Ovary bilobed

of the genus *Cotugnia* in respect to taxonomic characteristics. On the basis of presence of above mentioned differences and variations the authors are convinced to place the present form in new species viz. *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp. Nov. after the locality.

#### TAXONOMIC SUMMARY

Type species : *Cotugnia osmanabadensis* Sp. Nov.  
 Host : *Gallus gallus domesticus*, Linnaeus, 1758.  
 Habitat : Intestine  
 Locality : Osmanabad (M.S.), India.  
 Period of collection : March 2009 to March, 2011.  
 Deposition : Research and PG Department of Zoology, Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya, Nanded.  
 Etymology : The species is named after the locality of host.

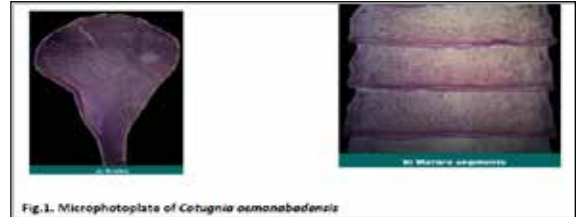


Fig.1. Microphotographs of *Cotugnia osmanabadensis*

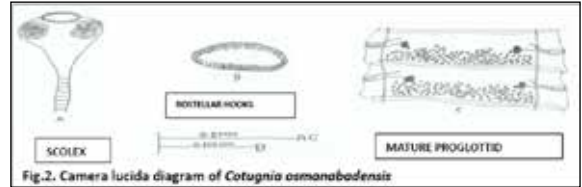


Fig.2. Camera lucida diagram of *Cotugnia osmanabadensis*

#### CONCLUSION

From the above discussion it is clear that, the species under discussion is new to science and differs from known valid spe-

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