

Taxonomic observation of *Cotugnia Indiana* sp. Nov. (Cestoda: Davaineidae, Fuhrmann 1907) from *Columba livia*

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Received : Aug., 2010; Revised : Sep., 2010; Accepted : Nov., 2010

ABSTRACT

The present investigation deals with a new species of the genus *Cotugnia* (Dimare, 1893) from the intestine of *Columba livia*, at Dharni Dist Amravati, M.S. India. The new species *Cotugnia indiana* comes closer to all the known species of the genus *Cotugnia* in general topography of organ but differs due to scolex square, which bears four suckers. Rastellum large, oval, placed anteriorly to scolex with 100-120 rostellar hooks. Neck medium, broader than long. Mature proglottids almost five times broader than long, with lateral margin slightly concave, each proglottid having double set of reproductive organs. Testes oval to rounded in shape, 115-120 in numbers. Cirrus pouch small, oval, obliquely placed. Cirrus thin, coiled, within cirrus pouch. Vas deferens tubular, coiled, runs obliquely. Cirrus and vagina open from common genital pore which is small, oval to rounded, marginally placed. Vagina is thin tube, runs transversely, posterior to cirrus pouch. Receptaculum seminis thin, coiled tube, reaches to ootype. The ootype is medium; ovary bilobed, lobes are slightly unequal. Vitelline gland large, compact. Longitudinal excretory canals long, tubular.

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Key words : Cestoda, *Cotugnia indiana* Sp. Nov., Davaineidae, *Columa livia*

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

- *C. digonopora* (Pasquale, 1890), Diamare, 1893.
- *C. polyacantha*, Fuhrmann, 1909.
- *C. cuneatea 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* Tubanguit et Masilungan, 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. yamaguti*, Shinde, 1985.
- *C. vishakhapatnamensis* Kolluri, 1988.
- *C. rajivji* Jadhav *et al.*, 1994.
- *C. kamatiensis*, Kharade and Shinde, 1995.
- *C. chengmaii* C. Wongsawad and Jadhav 1998.
- *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* Jadhav *et al.*, 2010.
- *C. hafeezi* Nanware *et al.*, 2010

Kasar, Chandrashekhar Rameshwar, Bhure, Dhanraj Balbhim, Nanware, Sanjay Shamrao and Sonune, M.B. (2010). Taxonomic observation of *Cotugnia Indiana* sp. Nov. (Cestoda: Davaineidae, Fuhrmann 1907) from *Columba livia*. *Asian J. Animal Sci.*, 5(2): 193-198

MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the course of investigation 09 cestode parasites were collected from the intestines of *Columba livia*. These cestodes were washed with water, fixed in 5% formalin for 24 hours. Subsequently, they were