

Studies on the cestode genus *Cephalobothrium*, Shipley ET Hornell, 1906 from *Dasyatis uarnak* with description of a new species

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ABSTRACT

The present description deals with *Cephalobothrium shindei* n.sp. is collected from *Dasyatis uarnak* (Forsskal, 1775) at Mirkarwada, Ratnagiri (West Coast of Maharashtra, India). The worm comes closer to all the known species of this genus in general topography of organ but differs due to scolex squarish in shape, presence of neck, mature segments broader than long in shape, testes three to four in numbers and large oval in shape, cirrus pouch is oval, elongated in shape placed towards the middle of the segments, cirrus is protrusible, presence of vas deferens, genital pores are sub-marginal, irregularly alternate, vagina posterior to cirrus, ovary bilobed, vitellaria are granular in shape.

Key words : Cestode, *Cephalobothrium*, *Dasyatis uarnak*, West Coast of Maharashtra

The genus *cephalobothrium* was established by Shipley et Hornell 1906 with its type species *C. aetobatidis* from *Aetobatis narinari* (Euphrasen, 1790), *Pteroplatalea micrura* and *Dasybatus Khuli* (Muller and Henle, 1841) at Ceylon, Subhapradha (1955) was reported *C. rhinobatidis* from *Rhinobatus granulatus* (Cuvier, 1829) in India. Later on Chincholikar and Shinde (1977) described new species of this genus *C. subhapradhi* from *Trygon* sp. (Woods Hole) in India. Two new species *C. ghardagense* and *C. teeniurai* from *Taeniura lymma* in Red Sea Egypt was reported by Ramadan (1986). Later on Sanka Sarada et.al. (1992) reported *C. neoetobatidis* from *Rhina ancylostoma* (Bloch and Schneider, 1801) at Waltair, Coast of Andhra Pradesh in India. Jadhav D.H. and Jadhav B.V. (1993) described two new species of this genus *C. alii* and *C. singhi* from *Trygon* sp. (Woods Hole) at Ratnagiri (West Coast of Maharashtra). Later on Premendu Bikash Pramanik and B. Manna (2005) added *C. gogadevensis* from *Rhinobatus granulatus* (Cuvier, 1829) at Bay of Bengal at Digha Coast, India. Jadhav D.H. and Ravi Salunke, 2007 described *C. govindraoi* at Alibag (M.S.)

The present description deals with *Cephalobothrium shindei* n.sp. is collected from *Dasyatis uarnak* (Forsskal, 1775) at Mirkarwada,

Ratnagiri (West Coast of Maharashtra, India).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ninety nine worms were collected from the different places such as Mirya, Alibag, Mirya, Mirkarwada, Bhatye, (West Coast of Maharashtra). Out of these I have collected most of the parasites *i.e.* Twenty six in number from the spiral valve of *Dasyatis uarnak* (Forsskal, 1775) at Mirkarwada, Ratnagiri (West Coast of Maharashtra, India). During Dec. 2003 to Nov. 2005 some parasites were taken for taxonomical studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The scolex is squarish in shape broad at middle, narrow anteriorly, measures 0.8713 (0.7621-0.9805) in length and 1.1650 (1.0194-1.3106) in breadth. The posterior part appears like a large rounded central disc and measures 0.97087 (0.4126-0.5582) in length and 1.6116 (0.6796-0.9320) in breadth. Anterior region bears four oval shaped suckers, measures 0.1480 (0.1262-0.1699) in length and 0.1383 (0.1165-0.1602) in breadth. The neck is short, measure 0.3349 (0.3300-0.3398) in length and 0.3932 (0.3883-0.3980) in breadth.

The mature segments broader than long in shape, measures 0.5315 (0.5000-0.5631) in length and 1.1335 (1.1165-1.1504) in breadth. Testes are large, oval in shape, three to four in numbers measures 0.2014 (0.1747-0.2281) in length and 0.3640 (0.3398-0.3883) in breadth. Cirrus pouch oval, elongated in shape present in the middle of the segments and measures 0.2815 (0.2621-0.3009) in

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