

RESEARCH PAPER

A new cestode *Mehdiangularia affinisae* (Eucestoda : dilepididae) from *Apus affinis*, M.S., India

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ABSTRACT

The present paper deals with description of a new species of the genus *Mehdiangularia* Shinde (1969) collected a new species *Mehdiangularia affinisae* new species collected from the intestine of house swift, *Apus affinis*, at Karjat, Dist. Ahmednagar, which differs from *Mehdiangularia swifti*, Shinde, 1969; *Mehdiangularia shastri*, *Mehdiangularia apusae* and *Mehdiangularia thapari* Jadhav *et al.*, 1993 in the shape and size of scolex, number of rostellar hooks, size of rostellar sac, the testes number, shape of cirrus pouch, position of genital pore and in shape and size and position of vitelline gland.

Key words : *Mehdiangularia affinisae*, *Apus affinis*, Intestine

The genus *Mehdiangularia* was erected by Shinde, 1969 with its type species *Mehdiangularia swifti* from *Apus affinis*. Later on Jadhav *et al.*, 1993 added three new species to this genus as *Mehdiangularia shastri*; *Mehdiangularia apusae* and *Mehdiangularia thapari*. The present form, deals with description of new species of genus *Mehdiangularia affinisae* n.sp.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Eleven cestode parasites, were collected from the intestine of house swift, *Apus affinis*. All were flattened, preserved in 4% formalin, washed with tap water, stained in Harri's haematoxyline, and whole amount slides were prepared for further taxonomical and anatomical studies. Sketches were drawn with the aid of camera lucida. All measurement are given in millimeter.

Description:

(Based on Fig. A,B,C,D,E)

The worms were medium in length, with thin musculature, scolex, numerous immature and mature segments; scolex medium, conical in shape, narrow anteriorly, broad in middle, slightly tapering posteriorly, distinctly marked off the strobila; slightly wider than long; with rostellum, rostellar hooks, 0.679-0.654 x 0.776-0.053; rostellum large, oval, situated at tip of the scolex, armed, 0.262 x 0.252; rostellar hooks 14 in number, T shaped in appearance, medium, situated in single circle, anterior ends divided into two parts, each projecting on either side of the main cylindrical shaft (handle) of the hook, 0.136-0.175 x 0.019-0.034; rostellar sac large, cylindrical, muscular, extends up to the middle of suckers, 0.557 x 0.141-0.199; sucker 4 in number, large, oval, arranged in

two pairs, situated at the posterior end of scolex, one pair in each half of it, overlapping on each other, in each pair, 0.262-0.306 x 0.204 - 0.277; neck is absent; mature segments medium, almost quadrangular, broader than long,

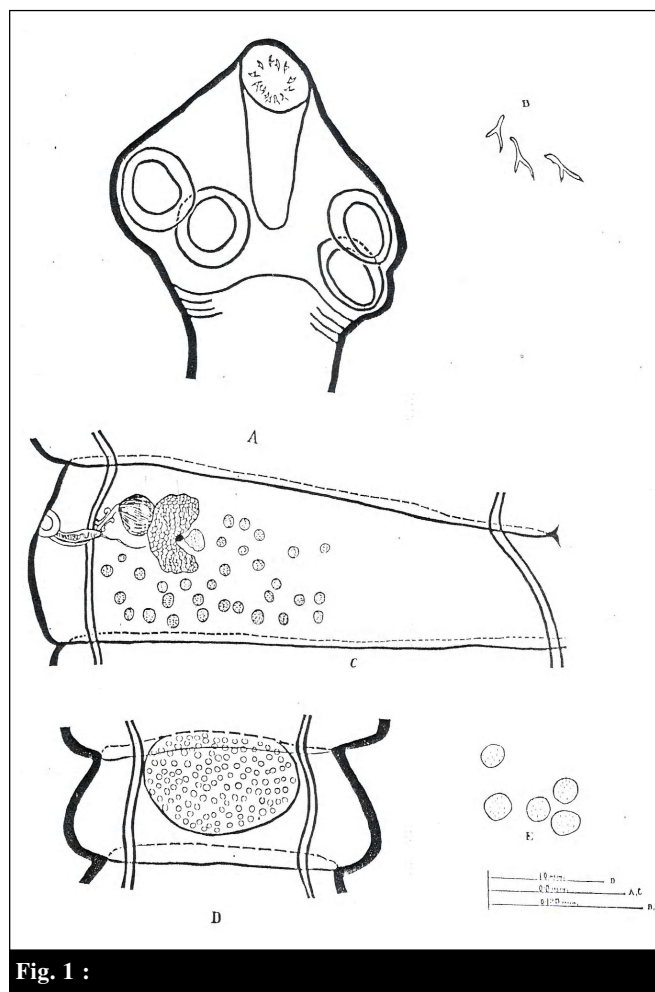


Fig. 1 :