

RESEARCH PAPER

**Studies on diphyllidean cestode genus *Scyphocephalus* (Riggenbach, 1898) (Family-diphyllobothriidae Luhe, 1910) from *Varanus salvator* with description of a new species**

K.V. KALYANKAR AND SANJAY SHAMRAO NANWARE

Accepted : March, 2010

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

**K.V.KALYANKAR**

Department of Zoology, Lal Bahadur Shastri Mahavidyalaya, Dharmabad, NANDED (M.S.) INDIA

**ABSTRACT**

The present study deals with an account of a new species of a cestode of the genus *Scyphocephalus*, (Riggenbach, 1898). The new species is characterized by having large scolex, distinctly marked off from strobila. Mature proglottids three times broader than long. Testes 55-60 in number, large cirrus pouch, Ovary distinctly bilobed, vagina thin, small receptaculum seminis. Ootype large, oval, compact, postovarin. Uterus thick, saccular, Gravid proglottids broader than long.

**Key words :** Cestode, *Scyphocephalus*, *Varanus salvator*

Genus *Scyphocephalus* was erected by Riggenbach, 1898, with its type Species *S. bisulcatus* in *Varanus salvator*. Genus was confirmed by Maccallum in 1921, reported the species from host *Varanus salvator*. Later on one more species was added by Tubangui, 1938 in *Varanus salvator*, Philippines since, then no species is added to this genus. The present communication deals with description of a new species *S. Jadhavi* collected from intestine of *Varanus salvator* at Nizamasagar, District Medak, Andhra Pradesh, India.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

During a survey of cestodes from reptiles, a new species of the genus *Scyphocephalus* was recovered from the intestine of *Varanus salvator*. Worms were flattened, preserved in 4% formalin, stained in Harri's Haematoxylin, dehydrated in graded series of alcohols, cleared in xylol and mounted in Canada balsam. Figures were made with the aid of camera lucida and measurements are given in millimeters unless otherwise stated.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

*Scyphocephalus jadhavi* sp. nov. (Fig. A-D)  
 Family: Diphylobothriidae Luhe, 1910  
 Genus: *Scyphocephalus* Riggenbach, 1898  
 Species: *Scyphocephalus jadhavi* Sp. Nov.

**Description :**

(Based on Twelve specimens)  
 Cestodes are fairly long, medium in size, and

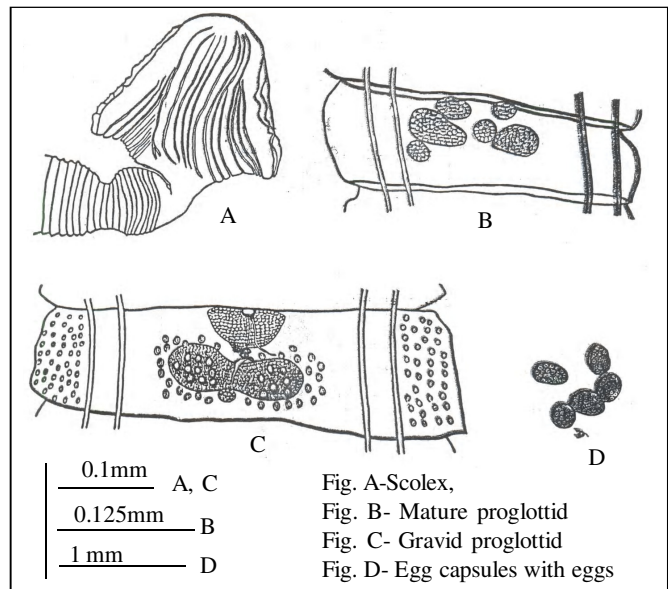


Fig. 1 : *Scyphocephalus jadhavi* sp.nov

consisting of 300 segments. Scolex is very large in size, triangular in shape broader at posterior margin, narrow anteriorly, broader than long, well developed, distinctly marked off from strobila and measures 2.767-3.748 in length and 1.642-3.865 in breadth. It bears four bothridia, which are small, rudimentary, irregular arranged in two pairs, each pair on lateral side, marginal, overlapping and measures 1.084-1.087 in length and 0.068-0.106 in breadth.

The apical organ is large, oval, indistinctly marked off from scolex, unpaired, sucker like and measures 0.375-0.607 in length and 1.285-1.625 in breadth. Scolex bears many suctorial grooves which are small, elongated, curved, extends from apical organ upto posterior margin