

A new species of genus *Monoecocestus* Beddard (1914) from *Francolinus pondicerianus* at Shrirampur, (M.S.) India

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ABSTRACT

The present communication deals with a new species of the genus *Monoecocestus*. The present species differs from all other known species of the genus in having scolex slightly quadrangular, suckers circular shape, neck long, mature segment broader than long, testes 48-50 (49) in number, cirrus pouch oval, cirrus unarmed, vas deferens curved, ovary butterfly shaped, vagina posterior to the cirrus pouch, receptaculum seminis oval, genital pore irregularly alternate, vitelline gland large, postovarian, gravid segment were not available.

Key words : Cestode, *Monoecocestus francolinusi*, *Francolinus*, *Pondicerianus*, Shrirampur

Beddard (1914) erected a new genus, *Monoecocestus* with its type species *M. decrescens* from *Dicotyles albirostris*. Later on the following species were added to this genus by various workers in the world:

M. americanus Stiles (1895) from *Erethizon dorsatum*

M. anoplocephaloides Douthitt (1955) from *Geomys breviceps*

M. hagmanni vigueras (1943) from *Capromys pilorides*

M. hydrochoeri Baylis (1928) Spassky, (1951) from *Hydrochoerus capybaru*

M. signodontis Chandler et Suttles (1922) from *Sigmodon hispidus texianus*

M. variabilis Douthitt (1915) Freeman (1949) from *Microtus* sp.

M. erethizontis Beddard (1914) from *Erethizon dorsatum*

M. gundlachi Vigueras (1943) from *capromys pilorides*

M. giganticus Buhler (1970) from *Erethizon dorsatum*

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Eight specimens of the cestode parasites were collected from the intestine of partridge, *Francolinus pondicerianus* at Shrirampur. The worms were washed,

flattened and fixed in 4% formalin, stained with *H. Haematoxylin*, dehydrated, cleared in xylene, mounted in D.P.X. Drawings were made with Camera lucida, measurements in mm.

Descriptions:

(*Monoecocestus francolinusi* n.sp.):

Scolex small, slightly quadrangular in shape, unarmed and measures 0.677-0.803 in length and 0.249-.0374 in breadth, suckers circular in shape, arranged in two lateral field and measures 0.089-0.116 in diameter, neck long, cylindrical, wider than scolex and measures 2.417-2.499 in length and 0.338-0.856 in breadth, mature segment broader than long irregular lateral margins, acraspedote and measures 1.231-1.321 in length and 2.749-2.981 in breadth, testes 48-50 (49) in number, oval, distributed in two lateral fields and measure 0.035-0.053 in length and 0.035-0.053 in breadth, cirrus pouch oval, curved posteriorly and measures 0.195 in length and 0.035 to 0.089 in breadth, cirrus unarmed, wide and measures 0.195 in length and 0.035 in breadth, vas deferns thin, curved and measures 0.446 in length and 0.017-0.035 in breadth, ovary large, butterfly shaped in the appearance, bilobed, having follicular, finger like, 12 to 16 acini and measures 0.071-0.624 in length and 0.749-0.803 in breadth, isthmus small, thin and measures 0.071 in length and 0.107 in breadth, vagina posterior to the cirrus pouch, curved and measures 1.820 in length and 0.017 in breadth, receptaculum seminis medium oval and measures 0.267 in length and 0.017-0.071 in breadth, genital pores small, oval, irregularly alternate, marginal and measure 0.160 in length and 0.053 in breadth, vitelline gland large, follicular with irregular

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