

Metazoan Parasites from Freshwater Fishes of Northwest Iran

J. Pazooki^{1*}, M. Masoumian², M. Yahyazadeh³ and J. Abbasi⁴

ABSTRACT

A systematic parasitological examination was carried out on 266 freshwater fish specimens, belonging to 11 species, from Northwest of Iran during the period from Summer 2001 to Summer 2002. Twelve parasite species including *Diplostomum spathaceum*, *Allocreadium isoporum*, *Ligula intestinalis*, *Digrama sp.*, *Caryophylleus laticeps*, *Rhabdocona hellichi*, *Eustrongylides excisus*, *Argulus foliaceus*, *Lamprolegna compacta*, *Myxobolus musayevi*, *M. cristatus*, and *Neoechinorhynchus rutili* were isolated and identified. It was concluded that *Sander lucioperca*, *Albornoides bipunctatus*, *Capoeta capoeta*, *Carassius carassius* and *Barbus capito* were five new hosts for those parasites in Iranian freshwater fishes. Furthermore, *Myxobolus cristatus* is recorded for the first time among Iranian freshwater fishes. All the parasites were collected from natural waters, but these rivers form a very important water reservoir in this area and these parasites can injure cultured fishes under certain conditions.

Keywords: Freshwater fishes, Iran, Metazoan, Parasites.

INTRODUCTION

The presence of many fish hatcheries and fish farms along the freshwaters resources of the northern part of Iran has made carrying out parasitological studies on the Caspian Sea Fauna Region a very important task.

In the former Soviet Union, Bykhovskaya and Bykhovsky (1940), Dogiel and Bogolepova (1957), Bykhovskaya-Pavlovskaya *et al.* (1964), Shulman (1990) and Bauer *et al.* (2002), worked on different fish species along the northern part of the Caspian Sea and identified many species of fish parasites.

The study of freshwater fish parasites in the southern part of the Caspian Sea, however, has been continuing over the past 40 years: Eslami *et al.* (1972), Golovin and

Mokhayer (1973), Mokhayer (1974, 1975, 1976, 1981), Williams *et al.* (1980), Eslami and Mokhayer (1977), Eslami and Kohne-shahri (1978) and Jalali 1998.

After the 1990s, several intensive studies were done at species level: Malek (1993), Satari and Faramarzi (1997), Pazooki and Masoumian (1999, 2004); Mirhashemi and Pazooki (2003), Pazooki and Aghlmandi (2002), Pazooki *et al.* (2004), Masoumian and Pazooki (1999) and Masoumian *et al.* (2002, 2004, 2005). During these studies more than 30 species were recorded.

The aim of this study is to summarize and review previous information on and surveys of metazoan parasites on freshwater fishes of West Azerbaijan Province, Iran.

1. Department of Biological Sciences, Shahid Beheshti University, P. O. Box: 19834, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. Iranian Fisheries Research Organization, Department of Fish Diseases, P. O. Box: 14155-6116, Tehran Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. Research Center of Natural Resources and Animal Sciences, P. O. Box: 669, Urmia, Islamic Republic of Iran.

4. Islamic Azad University of Urumia, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, P. O. Box: 969, Urmia, Islamic Republic of Iran.

* Corresponding author, email: pazooki2001@yahoo.com



MATERIALS AND METHODS

During the present study, 266 fish specimens from 11 different species were examined (Table 1). The fishes were collected from seven stations on the Aras, Zangbar and Sarysou Rivers. The stations are as follows:

- 1) Aras River: Cheshmeh Soraya, Bohlo-kandy and Aras Dam.
- 2) Zangbar River: Ghalae Jough, Ghezel Dagh and Baroun Dam.
- 3) Sarysou River.

Fish samplings were carried out seasonally, from Summer 2001 to Summer 2002. Fishes were transferred alive to the laboratory of Fisheries Department of the Research Center of Natural Resources and Animal Sciences, Urumia. In the laboratory, the fishes were weighed, measured and the spinal cords cut. Finally, they were examined for different parasites under light and stereo microscope. The collected parasites were

fixed and classified according to Bykhovskaya-Pavlovskaya *et al.* (1964) and Moravec (1994).

RESULTS

Altogether, 12 different metazoan parasites were detected. Prevalence was different depending on seasons and stations (Tables 2 and 3). The highest and the lowest infection rates were in Winter 2002 and Spring 2001, respectively. The parasites found are as follows:

- 1) Metacercaria of *Diplostomum spathaceum* Rudolphi, (1819).

Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Capoeta capoeta* (84%), *Cyprinus carpio* (72%), *Lucioperca lucioperca* (67%), *Alburnoides bipunctatus* (73%) (Figure 1a and Table 3).

Infected organs: lens of eyes.

Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Baroun Dam (79%), Sarysou River (81%), Aras Dam (69%).

Table 1. Fish examined during the study.

No	Fish species	Number examined	Weight (g)	Length (cm)	Prevalence of Infection
1	<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	166	8.5-60	9-18.5	65.6%
2	<i>Alburnoides bipunctatus</i>	15	2.4-7	6-8	33.3%
3	<i>Carassius carassius</i>	12	92-216	16-22	8.3%
4	<i>Barbus capito</i>	2	37-56	15-19	100%
5	<i>Rutilus rutilus caspicus</i>	18	22.213	12.6-2	11.1%
6	<i>Abramis brama</i>	23	44-260	16-29	1.4%
7	<i>Sander lucioperca</i>	9	162-400	28-49	44.4%
8	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	7	78-306	17.5-31	0
9	<i>Aspius aspius taeniatus</i>	11	17-196	12-30	18%
10	<i>Leuciscus cephalus</i>	1	13	11.7	0
11	<i>Silurus glanis</i>	2	3500-5000	31-47	50%

Table 2. Prevalence of infections in different seasons.

Season	Examined fish	Infected fish Ecto-parasites	Infected fish Endo-parasites
Summer 2001	69	42(60.8%)	27(31.9%)
Autumn 2001	56	50(79.9%)	6(10.7%)
Winter 2001	102	58(56.2%)	44(75%)
Spring 2002	39	35(89.7%)	18(46.1%)

Table 3. Prevalence of infections in different fishes and seasons.

Parasites Fishes	Stations	Seasons	No. exam. Fish	No. exam. Fish	(%)
1): <i>Diplostomum spathaceum</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Baroun Dam	S	92	73	79.3%
"	Sarysou River	"	43	38	88.4%
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Aras Dam	A	7	5	71.5%
<i>Lucioperca lucioperca</i>	Aras Dam	"	15	11	73.3%
2): <i>Ligula intestinalis</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	S	67	20	29.8%
"	Cheshme Souraya	"	3	2	66.6%
"	Ghalae Jough	A	7	2	28.57%
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Aras Dam	"	6	2	33.3%
<i>Abramis brama</i>	"	"	1	1	100%
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	W	34	3	8.23%
"	Ghezel Dagh	"	1	1	100%
<i>Abramis brama</i>	Aras Dam	"	21	7	33.3%
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	Sp	21	1	0.07%
<i>Abramis brama</i>	Aras Dam	"	4	2	50%
3): <i>Digrama sp.</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	S	67	5	7.6%
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Ghezel Dagh	A	3	1	33.3%
<i>Abramis brama</i>	Aras Dam	W	21	10	9.25%
"	"	Sp	4	1	25%
4): <i>Rhabdochona hellichi</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	S	67	14	20%
"	Ghezel Dagh	A	13	4	66.6%
"	Ghalae Jough	W	34	24	70%
"	"	Sp	21	14	66.6%
5): <i>Argulus fuliaceus</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Baroun Dam	S	92	11	11.1%
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Aras Dam	"	7	6	85.7%
<i>Abramis brama</i>	"	A	34	28	82.3%
<i>Aspius aspius</i>	"	W	11	7	63.6%
<i>Lucioperca lucioperca</i>	"	Sp	9	6	66.7%
6): <i>Allocreadium isoporum</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	S	1	1	--
7): <i>Neoechinorhynchus rutilli</i>					
<i>Barbus capito</i>		Sp	1	1	--
8): <i>Caryophylleus laticeps</i>					
<i>Abramis brama</i>	Ghalae Jough	S	67	7	10%
9): <i>Lamprolegna compacta</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Baroun Dam	Sp	3	3	--
10): <i>Myxobolus cristatus</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	Sp	68	14	20.5%
11): <i>Myxobolus musayevi</i>					
<i>Capoeta capoeta</i>	Ghalae Jough	Sp	68	10	14.7%
12): <i>Estrongylides excisus</i>					
<i>Carassius carassius</i>	Aras Dam	W	1	1	--

S: summer, A: autumn, W: winter, Sp: spring.

2) *Allocreadium isoporum* Loos, (1894).

Host: *Capoeta capoeta* (Figure 1b).

Infected organ: intestine.

Place of collection: Ghalae Jough.

3) *Ligula intestinalis* Lineaus (1758).

Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Capoeta capoeta* (34%), *Cyprinus carpio* (33%), and only one *Abramis brama* (Figure1c1, c2);



Table 3).

Infected organ: abdominal cavity.

Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Baroun Dam (79%), Sarysou River (81%), Aras Dam (69%).

4) *Digrama* sp.

Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Capo-*

eta capoeta (8%), *Cyprinus carpio* (33%), *Abramis brama*(17%), (Figure1d and Table3).

Infected organs: abdominal cavity.

Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Ghalae Jough (8%), Ghezal Dagh (34%), Aras Dam (17%).

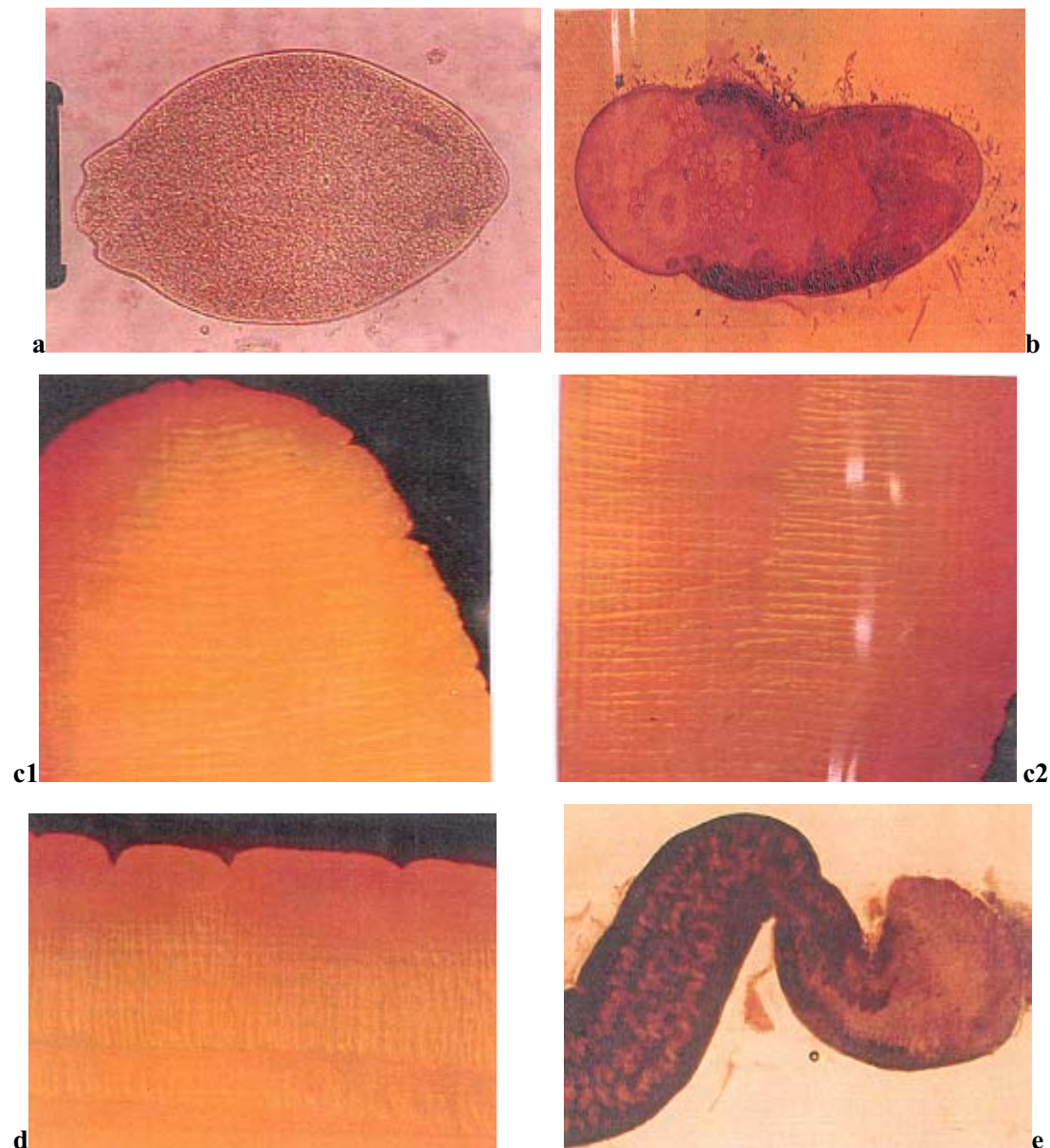


Figure 1: a) Metacercaria of *Diplostomum spataceum* from the lens of eyes in *Capoeta capoeta*, mag. X224. b) *Allocreadium isoporum* from the intestine *Capoeta capoeta*, mag. X140. c1) Anterior part, c2) Abdominal line of *Ligula intestinalis* from the abdominal cavity of *Abramis brama*, mag. x28. d) *Digrama* sp. from the abdominal cavity of *Abramis brama*, mag. x28. e) *Caryophylleus laticeps* collected from intestine of *Abramis brama*, mag. X112.

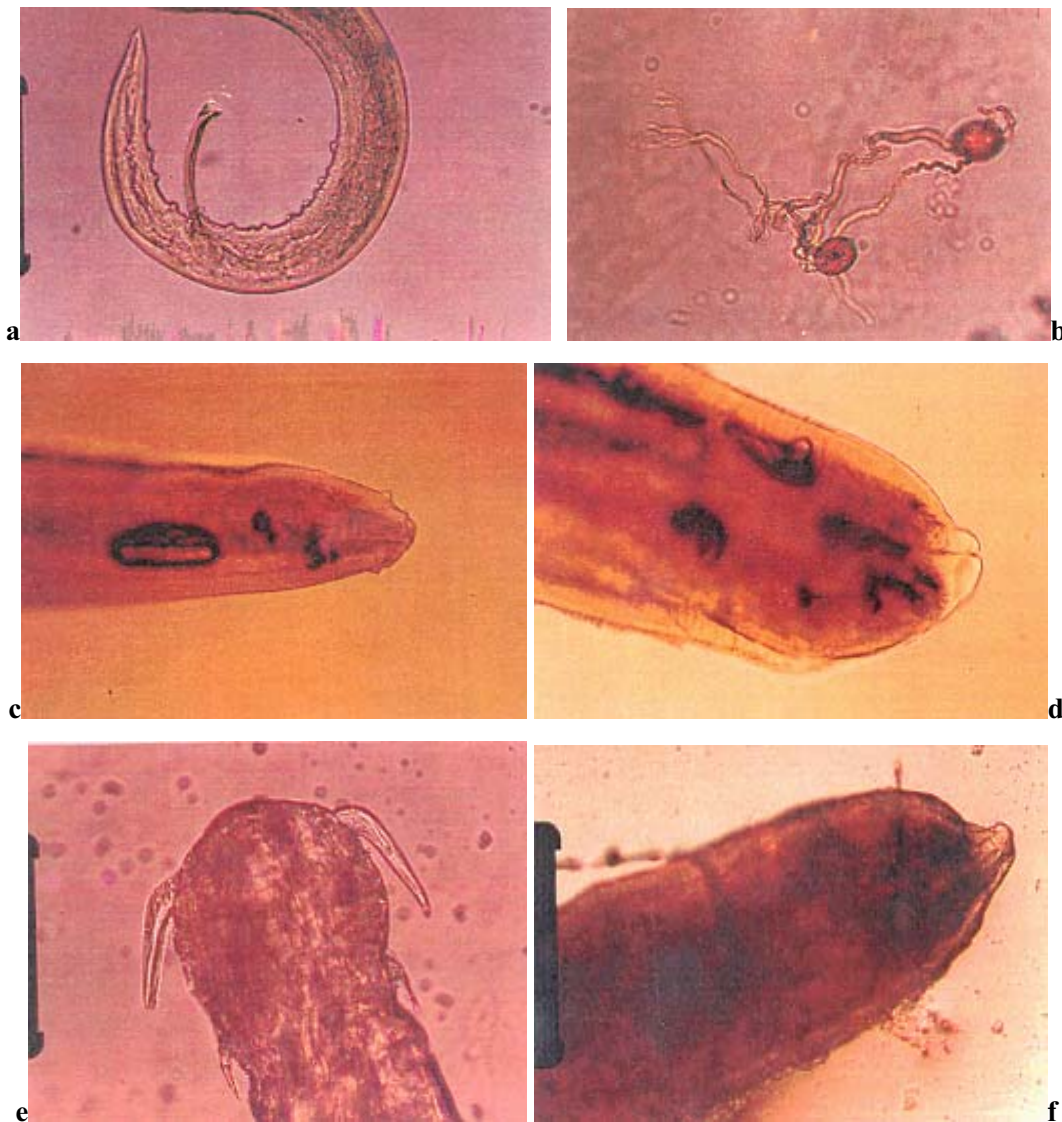


Figure 2: a) Spicule of *Rhabdochona hellichi* from *Capoeta capoeta* intestine, mag. x560. b) The eggs of *Rhabdochona hellichi*, mag. X224. c and d) Anterior part and posterior part of *Eustrongylides excisus* from *Capoeta capoeta*, mag. X560. e and f) Anterior part and posterior part of *Neoechinorhynchus rutili* from *Barbus capito*, mag. X560.

5) *Caryophyllaeus laticeps* Pallas, (1781).

Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Abramis brama* (10%), (Figure 1e).

Infected organs: intestine.

Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Ghalae Jough (10%),

6) *Rhabdochona hellichi* Sramet, (1959).

Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Capoeta capoeta* (56%), (Figure 2a, b and Ta-

ble3).

Infected organs: intestine.

Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Ghalae Jough (52%), Ghezel Dagh (66%).

7) *Eustrongylides excisus* Jagerskiold, (1909).

Hosts: *Carassius carassius*, (Figure 2c, d).

Infected organs: intestine.



- Place of collection: Aras Dam.
- 8) *Neoechinorhynchus rutilli* Muller, (1780).
Hosts: *Barbus capito*, (Figure 2e, f).
Infected organs: intestine.
Place of collection: Sary Sou Dam.
- 9) *Argulus foliaceus* Muller, (1785).
Hosts (prevalence of infection %): *Capoeta capoeta* (11%), *Cyprinus carpio* (86%), *Sander lucioperca* (67%), *Abramis brama* (82%) and *Aspius aspius* (64%) (Table 5).
Infected organs: skin.
Place of collection (prevalence of infection %): Baroun Dam (11%), Aras Dam (59%).
- 10) *Lamprolegna compacta* Nordmann, (1832).
Hosts: *Capoeta capoeta*.
Infected organs: gills.
Place of collection: Baroun Dam.
- 11) *Myxobolus cristatus* Shulman, (1962).
Hosts: *Capoeta capoeta*.
Infected organs: gills.
Place of collection: Ghalae Jough.
- 12) *Myxobolus musayevi* Kadilov, (1963).
Hosts: *Capoeta capoeta*.
Infected organs: gills.
Place of collection: Ghalae Jough

DISCUSSION

During this study two Digenea, three Cestod, two Nematod, two Myxozoan, two Crustacean and only one Acanthocephalus were identified.

According to the results, five new hosts are recorded for the first time from Iranian freshwater fishes. They are as follows:

Sander lucioperca and *Albornoides bipunctatus* for *Diplostomum spathaceum*; *Capoeta capoeta* for *Allocreadium isoporum* and *Digrama sp.*; *Carassius carassius* for *Eustrongylides excius*; and *Barbus capito* for *Neoechinorhynchus rutilli*. Furthermore, *Myxobolus cristatus* is reported here for the first time from Iranian freshwater fishes, namely from *Capoeta capoeta*.

Diplostomiasis is very common in the freshwater fishes of Iran (Jalali, 1998). The results of the present study and that of Jalali (1998) show that incidence of *Diplostomum*

spathaceum in the study area, especially among Cyprinid fishes, is very high.

Allocreadium isoporum has already been reported from the intestine of *Alburnoides bipunctatus* from the Gorgan Roud River (Jalali, 1998), and *Leuciscus cephalus* from the Zayandeh Roud River (Williams et al., 1980). This parasite may be pathogenic in cultured fishes (Woo, 1995), and is reported here also from the intestine of *Capoeta capoeta*.

Ligula intestinalis and *Digrama sp.* are widely distributed parasites (Jalali, 1998). Family Ligulidae are dangerous parasites for fish culture. *Ligula sp.* has been studied in Iran (Jalali, 1998), but there less data is available for *Digrama sp.*

Caryophyllaeus laticeps was collected from *Abramis brama* at Aras Dam. Satari and Faramarzi (1997) studied the life cycle of this parasite and indicated that if the number of parasites in the intestine was more than 300, the mortality of Cyprinids might be as high as 70%. *Caryophyllaeus laticeps* has previously been reported from the northern part of the Caspian Sea, (Evlanov and Kolokol, 1992), and is reported here from the southern part of the Caspian Sea.

The nematodes found in this study were *Rhabdochona hellichi* and *Eustrongylides excius*, of which the former had already been reported from *pike* and *Barbus spp.* (Eslami et al., 1972), and *Chalcalburnus chalcoides* (Pazooki and Masoumain, 1999), in Europe from *Barbus spp.* (Moravec, 1994), and later from *Silurus glanis* (in Jalali, 1998). In this study, *Eustrongylides excius* is reported for the first time from *Carassius carassius*.

Research on acanthocephalans in Iran is scarce. The genus *Neoechinorhynchus* has been reported by Mokhayer (1974) and *Neoechinorhynchus rutili* by Jalali (1998). In the present study this worm is reported from a new host, *Barbus capito*.

Crustaceans are even less well studied in Iran, with Mokhayer (1981) and Jalali (1998) having studied different crustaceans down to genus level. Abdi (1997) and Mirhashemi and Pazooki (2003) identified five

Crustacean species. In this study two crustacean, *Argulus foliaceus* and *Lamproglena compacta* are reported with high prevalence from some economically important fishes from the Aras Dam.

Among others, two species of Myxozoan parasites which have been shown to belong to the Metazoans (Smother *et al.*, 1994; Kent *et al.*, 2001; Bush *et al.*, 2001) were detected. One of them, *Myxobolus musayevi*, has already been reported in *Capoeta capoeta* from the Tajan River (Masoumian and Pazooki 1999), but the other one, *M. cristatus*, is reported for the first time from Iran. This parasite has already been reported from the northern part of the Caspian Sea (Shulman, 1990).

All the parasites were collected from natural waters, but these rivers form a very important water reservoir in this area; there are a lot of hatcheries and farms in the Northwest of Azarbaijan Province and, they used these waters. These parasites can injure the cultured fishes under certain conditions (Woo, 1995). The present study revealed some new host and locality records that are important from both the commercial and zoological points of view.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors wish to thank Mr. Shiri, the technician of the Fisheries Department of the Research Center of Natural Resources and Animal Sciences for his extensive help during sampling.

REFERENCES

1. Bauer O. N., Pugachev, O. N. and Voronin, V. 2002. Study of Parasites and Diseases of Sturgeon in Russia: a Review. *J. Appl. Ichthyol.* XI: 420-429.
2. Bush, A. O., Fernandez, J. C., Esch, G. W., and Seed, J. R., 2001. *Parasitism: the Diversity and Ecology of Animal Parasites*. Cambridge University Press. 516pp.
3. Bykhovskaya-Pavlovskaya, I. E., Gushev, A. V., Dubinina, M. N., Izyumova, N. A., Smirnova, T. S., Sokolovskaya, I. L., Shtein, G. A., Shulman, S. S. and Spshtein, V. M. 1964. *Key to Parasites of Freshwater Fish of U.S.S.R.* Israeli Program for Scientific Translations. Jerusalem. 694pp.
4. Bykhovskaya, I. E. and Bykhovsky, B. E. 1940. Parasitic Fauna of Fishes of Akhtarinsk Bays (Azov Sea, River Kuban Delta). *Parazitologicheskij Sbornik* (Leningrad). **8**: 131- 161. (in Russian).
5. Dogiel, V. A. and Bogolepova, I. I. 1957. *Parasitic Fauna of Lake Baikal Fishes*. Trudy Baikalskoi Limnologicheskoi Stancii Akademiya Nauk SSR. Vostochno-Sibirskii Filia. 427pp. (in Russian).
6. Dogiel, V. A., Petrushevski G. K. and Polanski, Y. 1964. *Parasitology of Fishes*. Oliver and Boyd press, London. U.K.
7. Eslami, A. and Mokhayer, B. 1977. Nematode Larvae of Medical Importance Found in Market Fish in Iran. *Medical Journal*, **8**: 345-348, (in Persian).
8. Eslami, A. and Kohneshahri, M. 1978. Study on the Helminthiasis of *Rutilus frissikutum* from the South Caspian Sea. *Acta. Zool.* **70**: 153-155.
9. Eslami, A., Anvar, M. and Khatibi, SH. 1972. Incidence and Intensity of Helminthoses in Pike (*Esox lucius*) of Caspian Sea (North of Iran). *Riv. It. Piscic. Ittio. A.*, VII (1): 32-41.
10. Evlanov, I. A. and Kolokol, S. E. 1992. Population Ecology of *Caryophyllaeus laticeps* (Cestoda, Caryophyllaeidae) in Bream Population. *Acta. Parasitol. Pol.*, **36(1)**: 35-38.
11. Golovin, P. P. and Mokhayer, B. 1973. Acanthocephales des Esturgeons de la mer Caspienne. *Annl. Parasit. Hum. Comp.*, **4**: 597-602.
12. Jalali, B. 1998. Parasites and Parasitic Diseases of Iranian Freshwater Fishes. Iranian Fisheries Company, 562pp. (in Persian).
13. Kent, M. L., Andree, K. B., Bartholomew, J. L., El-Matbouli, M., Desser, S. S., Devlim, R. H., Feist, S. W., Hedrick, F. R., Hoffmann, R. W., Khattra, J., Hallett, S. L., Lester, R. G., Longshaw, M., Palenzeul, O., Siddall, M. and Xiao, C. 2001. Recent Advances in our Knowledge of the Myxozoa. *J. Eukaryotic Microbiol.*, **48(4)**: 395-413.
14. Kuperman, B.L. 1993. Fish Parasites on Bio-indicators of Water Pollution, *CAN. Transl. Fish. Aquat. Sci.* No: 85-98, 7pp.
15. Malek, M. 1993. Infections and Life Cycle of *Clinostomum complanatum* from *Capoeta*



- capoeta. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, 1: 35-46, (in Persian).
16. Masoumian, M. and Pazooki, J. 1999. Myxosporean Parasites from Freshwater Fishes of Gyilan and Mazandaran Provinces. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, **7(3)**: 47-57, (in Persian).
 17. Masoumian, M., Setareh, J. and Mokhayer, B. 2002. Survey on Parasitic Infection of *Rutilus rutilus* from Southeast of the Caspian Sea. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, **11(2)**: 79-90, (in Persian).
 18. Masoumian, M., Pazooki, J. and Ghasemi, R. 2004. *Myxobolus* Infection in Three *Barbus spp.* from Southern Part of Caspian Sea. *J. Vet. Med. Faculty Tehran Univ.*, **58(4)**: 329-334. (in Persian)
 19. Masoumian M., Pazooki J., Yahyazadeh and A. Teymornejad 2005. Protozoan from Freshwater Fishes from Northwest of Iran. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, **4(2)**: 31-42.
 20. Mirhashemi, A. R. and Pazooki, J. 2003. Identification of Crustacean Parasites in some Fishes of Mahabad Reservoir. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, **11(2)**: 133-148, (in Persian).
 21. Mokhayer, B. 1974. A Check List of Acipenseridae Fishes Parasites. *J. Vet. Med. Faculty Tehran Univ.*, **29(1)**: 1-12 (in Persian).
 22. Mokhayer, B. 1975. Ecological Survey on Parasites of Acipenseridae Fishes. *J. Vet. Med. Faculty Tehran Univ.*, **30**: (1): 38-48 (in Persian).
 23. Mokhayer, B. 1976. The Treatment of Bothriocephalosis in Grass Carp. *Riv. It. Piscic, Ittiopl-A*, XI-N4: 119-121.
 24. Mokhayer, B. 1981. Survey on the Parasites of Sefid-Roud River. *J. Vet. Med. Faculty Tehran Univ.*, **38**: 61-75 (in Persian).
 25. Moravec, F. 1994. *Parasitic nematodes of freshwater fishes of Europe*. Academic and Kluwer Publishers Prague, and Dordrecht, Boston, London, 473 pp.
 26. Pazooki, J. and Masoumian, M. 1999. Nematodes from Freshwater Fishes of Guyilan and Mazandaran Provinces. *J. Pajouhesh Sazandegi.*, **51**: 93-99 (in Persian).
 27. Pazooki, J. and Aghlmandi, F. 2002. *Ligula intestinalis* from *Alburnoides charousini* of Shahid Modares Dam in Kashmar. *J. Pajouhesh Sazandegi.*, **51**: 90-92 (in Persian).
 28. Pazooki, J. and Masoumian, M. 2004. *Cryptobia acipenseris* and *Haemogregarina acipenseris* infections in *Acipenser guldenstadti* and *A. persicus* in the Southern Part of the Caspian Sea. *J. Agric. Sci. Technol.*, Vol. **6**: 95-101.
 29. Pazooki, J., Masoumian, M. and Ghasemi, R. 2004. Parasites from Three *Barbus* Species of Tajan and Zaren Roud Rivers in Mazandaran Province, Iran. *J. Pajouhesh Sazandegi.*, **59**: 50-57 (in Persian).
 30. Pojmansk, T. and Choloniewskie, J. 1991. The Distribution of *Caryophyllaeus laticeps* in the Alimentary Tract of Bream (*Abramis brama*) from Goslawskie Lake (Poland). *Acta. Parasitol. Pol.*, **36**: 39-43.
 31. Satari, M. and Faramarzi, N. 1997. A Survey on Infection of Fishes of Anzali Lagoon with Parasites of Genus *Caryophyllaeus*. *Iranian J. Fisheries Sci.*, **1(4)**: 7-12 (In Persian).
 32. Shulman, S. S. 1990. *Myxosporidia of the U.S.S.R.* A. A. Balkema Translation Series 75. A. A. Balkema/ Rotterdam. 613pp.
 33. Smother J.F., Von Dohlen C.D., Smith Jr. L. H. and Kent M. L., 1994. Molecular Evidence that the Myxooan Protists are metazoan. *Science*. **265**: 1719-1721.
 34. Williams, J. S., Gibson, D. B. and Sadeghian, A. 1980. Some Helminthes Parasites of Iranian Freshwater Fishes. *J. Nat. Hist.* **14**: 685-699.
 35. Woo P. T. K. 1995. Fish Diseases and Disorders. Volume 1, Protozoan and Metazoan-infections. CAB International, Wallingford, UK. 874 pp.

بررسی انگل‌های پریاخته ماهیان آبهای شیرین شمال غربی ایران

ج. پازوکی، م. معصومیان، م. یحیی‌زاده و ج. عباسی

چکیده

در طی بررسی‌های انگل شناسی روی ماهیان آبهای شمال غربی ایران در طی سالهای ۱۳۸۰ تا ۱۳۸۱ مجموعاً ۲۶۶ عدد ماهی معاینه گردیدند. ماهیان از هفت ایستگاه در سه رودخانه شمال غربی استان آذربایجان غربی صید گردیدند و بطور زنده به آزمایشگاه شیلات مرکز تحقیقات منابع طبیعی استان منتقل شدند. در آزمایشگاه پس از بیومتری ماهیان قطع نخائی شده و سپس کلیه اندامهای ماهی از نقطه نظر آلودگی به انگل‌های پریاخته معاینه شدند. مجموعاً در این مطالعات دوازده انگل زیر از ماهیان جداسازی و شناسائی شدند: دیپلوستوموم اسپاتاسه اوم، آلوکریدیوم ایزوپوروم، لیگولا اینتستینالیس، کاریوفیله اوس لاتی سپس، رابدوکونا هلیچی، اوسترونژیلیدس اکسیسوس، لامپرولگنا کمپاکتا، آرگولوس فولیاسه اوس، میکسوبولوس موسایوی، میکسوبولوس کریستاتوس، نئواکینورینکوس روتیلی و یک گونه از جنس دیگر. براساس نتایج این مطالعات میکسوبولوس کریستاتوس و نیز پنج میزبان جدید برای اولین بار از ماهیان آب شیرین ایران معرفی شده است. کلیه انگل‌ها از ماهیان محیط‌های طبیعی جداسازده‌اند که چنانچه به طریقی به محیط‌های مصنوعی راه بایند برخی از آنها میتوانند بسیار خطرناک و بیماری‌زا باشند.