



ZOOLOGY

A NEW SPECIES *HEXACANALIS ASHAE* N.SP. (EUCESTODA: LECANICEPHALIDAE, BRAUN, 1906) FROM *TRYGON ZUGEI* AT BOMBAY, (M.S.), INDIA

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Abstract

The worm under description deals with new species of genus *Hexacanalisis ashae* n.sp. and after going through the literature in having testes number 50-55 (52), comes closer to *H. zugei*, *H. yamagutti* & *H. trygoni* but it differs from them in many characters as in position of suckers, size, position and number of testes, shape of ovary, position of vagina, position of genital pores and in shape and position of vitellaria.

Keywords: *Hexacanalisis ashae* n.sp. *Trygon zugei*, Spiral valve, Bombay (West coast of India)

Introduction

The genus *Hexacanalisis* was established by Perrenoud (1931) and South-well (1911) as type species *H. abruptus* from *Pteropiates micrura* at Ceylon and Trivendrum coast. Synonymically recorded as *Cephalobothrium* with its type species *C. abruptus*. Later on 7 species are added to this genus by various workers in the world. The present communication deals with description of new species *Hexacanalisis ashae* n.sp.

Material and Methods

Twenty specimens of parasites were collected from the spiral valve of *Trygon zugei*. All were flattened, preserved in 4% formalin, stained with Ham's haematoxyline, were passed through various alcoholic grades, slides were prepared for anatomical studies. Drawings were made with the help of camera lucida. All measurements are in millimeters.

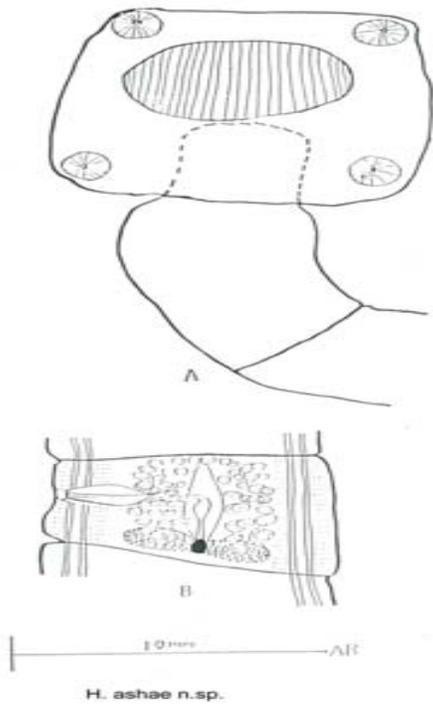
Description

The Scolex large, quadrangular, compressed on all four sides, divided in two regions, anterior and posterior, 1.031 - 1.069 x 1.016 - 1.198; anterior region with large circular sucker, medium in size, oval, with thin muscle bundles, 0.379-0.440 x 0.60-0.742; posterior region large, quadrangular, compressed on all four sides, 1.023-0.106 x 0.985-1.182; accessory suckers 4, in 4 corners, medium, round, situated in four corners posterior region of the scolex, equidistantly placed, 0.136-0.159 in width; neck medium, narrow anteriorly, broad posteriorly, 1.031-1.478 x 0.402-0.629; anterior mature segments broader than long, posterior mature segments broader than long, posterior mature

segments longer than wide, 0.462-0.681 x 0.887-0.970; testes small, medium sized, oval, 50-55(52), in intervacular field, anterior to ovary, some dorsal to ovarian lobes, in two lateral fields, upto cirrus pouch, few in single filed, anterior to it, almost evenly distributed, in central medulla, 0.030-0.045 x 0.045-0.68; cirrus pouch medium, oval, transversely placed, extends medially upto 1/3^r of the segments, opens marginally, 0.265-0.303 x 0.068-0.114; cirrus thin, straight, unarmed, contained within the cirrus pouch, 0.273 x 0.008-0.015; vas deferens short, thin, extends anteriorly, 0.114 x 0.008; ovary indistinctly bilobed, lobes compact, extends laterally, situated near the posterior margin of the segments, 0.500 x 0.083-0.121; vagina thin, long tube, posterior to cirrus pouch, starts from the genital pores, extends transversely and obliquely, upto the middle of the segments, turns posteriorly, in middle of the segments, enlarges to forms a receptaculum seminis, opens into ootype, 0.644 x 0.008-0.015; receptaculum seminis small, sac-like, oval, 0.076 x 0.038-0.053; genital pores medium, oval, anterior to middle of segments, marginal, irregularly alternate, 0.060 x 0.030; uterus saccular, cylindrical, running upto anterior margin of the segments, 0.432-0.454 x 0.053-0.114; longitudinal excretory canals thin, two pairs on each side, subcortical in position, 0.015-0.23; vitellaria granular, thin strips, on each lateral sides, one strip outside and one inside the longitudinal excretory canals and from anterior to posterior margin of the segments (Fig. and B).

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Fig. A and B - *Hexacanalisis ashae*



Type species - *Hexacanalisis ashae* n.sp..

Host - *Trygon zugei* Muller and Henle, 1841..

Habitat - Spiral valve.

Locality - Bombay, M.S. (West coast of India)

India.

Date of collection - 9th December, 1990.

Results and Discussion

The worm under discussion differs from *H. zugei* in not having the central sucker with transverse slit-like opening, testes small, 42-47; in 3-4 rows, ovary a single mass, small, oval, compact, vagina posterior to

cirrus pouch, genital pores irregularly alternate, just above middle of the segment and vitellaria granular, with wide strips; also differs from *H. yamagutti* in not having central suckers with transverse slit-like opening, testes small, 40-45, in a single field, in 5-7 rows; ovary a single mass, compact; vagina posterior to cirrus pouch, genital pores irregularly alternate, above the middle of segments, and vitellaria granular, with wide strips and differs from *H. trygoni* in not having central sucker highly muscular, with transverse slit like opening, testes 30-50, in two lateral field, upto distal end of the cirrus pouch, in a single field, anterior to it, ovary a single mass, compact, vagina posterior to cirrus pouch, vitellaria thin strips and in sub-cortical region.

As above noted characters are enough to erect new species for these worms hence the name *Hexacanalisis ashae* n. sp. is proposed, in honour of the mother of author i.e. Mrs. Asha Dnyanoba Khamkar, for her constant encouragement and inspiration for the completion of the work.

Acknowledgement

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