



## Morphological aspects of Clinostomidae metacercariae (Trematoda: Digenea) in *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* and *Hoplias malabaricus* (Pisces: Erythrinidae) of the Neotropical region, Brazil

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### ABSTRACT

Species of fish of Marajó Island, State of Pará, Brazil, were examined to identify the trematodes parasitizing 102 *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* (gold wolf fish) and 104 *Hoplias malabaricus* (thraira). Metacercariae of two species of trematodes, 170 specimens of *Clinostomatopsis sorbens* and 10 *Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum* were found and identified. The parasitary indices of *C. sorbens* from *H. unitaeniatus* and *H. malabaricus*, were 43.14% and 30.77% for prevalence, 2.52 and 1.84 for mean intensity, 1.09 and 0.57 for mean abundance and 1 to 9 and 1 to 7 for range of infection, respectively, on both fish the site of infection was the mesentery. The parasitary indices of *I. dimorphum* from *H. unitaeniatus* were 2.94% for prevalence, 2.66 for mean intensity, 0.08 for mean abundance, 1 to 4 for range of infection, and the sites of infection were the mesentery and the muscle. Metacercariae of *I. dimorphum* were collected in muscles of a specimen of *H. malabaricus*, with 0.96% of prevalence, intensity of infection of 2 parasites and 0.02 of abundance. New morphological data of external and internal structures are presented. This is the first record of metacercariae of *C. sorbens* and *I. dimorphum* in Amazonian fish.

**Key words:** Clinostomidae, *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus*, *Hoplias malabaricus*, Brazil.

### INTRODUCTION

The genera *Hoplerythrinus* and *Hoplias*, have a wide distribution in the Neotropical region (Godoy 1975, Buckup 1999, Oyakawa 2003, Graça and Pavanelli 2007, Oyakawa and Mattox 2009). The *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* occurs in Central and

South America, and inhabits swamps and creeks with little current, as well as flooded savannas. The *Hoplias malabaricus* occurs in Central and South America from Costa Rica to Argentina, being found in most rivers basins. They constitute an important fishery resource, also used in aquaculture and as ornamental fish (Froese and Pauly 2012).

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In Brazil, data on the fishery of these two species indicate their economic value related to the amount of fish obtained, and taking into account the internal acceptance of the product. Both erythrinids fish are important sources of protein for the Amazonian riverside populations and can represent up to 50% the diet of the Marajó Island communities (Marinho 2005, Murrieta et al. 2008). In the fish markets of Marajó Island these fish are usually sold whole making it to view parasites and because of the constant presence of larvae of these Clinostomidae helminths, the consumer tends to reject them during evisceration and filleting. *H. unitaeniatus* and *H. malabaricus* have been previously studied considering hygienic-sanitary procedures regarding ichthyoparasitological approaches, mainly on anisakids and eustrongylids nematode species (Benigno et al. 2012).

The presence of parasites in fish products indicates a harmful sanitary problem not to be underestimated. Even considering that most of the parasitic agents are not pathogenic to humans, some species can be associated to serious diseases due to the ingestion of infected fish, caused by helminth larvae, and few species of clinostomid trematodes may rarely infect people (mainly associated to *Clinostomum* spp.), causing pharyngitis, laryngitis, laryngo-pharyngitis or eye infections, who have consumed raw fresh-water fish, in Japan, Korea, Thailand, India, and Israel (Williams and Jones 1994, Chung et al. 1995, Tiewchaloern et al. 1999).

Beyond the zoonotic importance of this group of parasites it is related to the disagreeable aspect they present to potential consumers of infected fishes that often are discharged either in processing facilities or during inspection procedures, causing economic losses. Reports of parasitism by a Clinostomidae trematode *Clinostomum* sp. in tilapia species, *Oreochromis* spp. in Zaire have often been disreputed or simply rejected by consumers because of parasitic worms (Kabunda and Sommerville 1984).

The metacercariae of *Clinostomum* sp., *C. complanatum* (Rudolphi 1814) and *C. marginatum* Rudolphi 1819 species usually involved with zoonosis in other countries have been reported in Brazilian freshwater fish, and *H. malabaricus* was included among these hosts (Dias et al. 2003a, 2006, Eiras et al. 2010).

The metacercariae of *Clinostomatopsis sorbens* (Braun 1899) Dolfus, 1932 has been recorded in the State of Mato Grosso on the fish *H. unitaeniatus* and *H. malabaricus* (Travassos 1940).

The metacercariae of *I. dimorphum* have been recorded in the fish *H. malabaricus* (Travassos et al. 1964, Pavanelli et al. 1990, Fortes et al. 1996, Moreira 2000, Gallio et al. 2007, Paraguassú and Luque 2007, Rodrigues 2010), *H. unitaeniatus* (Moreira 2000) and *Schizodon borelli* (Machado et al. 1996).

In Brazil, the adult worms of *C. sorbens*, were recorded in the esophagus of Ciconiiformes birds, from Ardeidae and Ciconiidae families (Travassos 1922, 1928, Viana 1924, Travassos et al. 1969). In Argentina, they were also recorded in Ardeidae birds (Lunaschi and Drago 2009).

Adults of *Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum* Diesing (1850) have been recorded parasitizing Ardeidae birds in Brazil (Travassos 1928, Lent and Freitas 1937, Travassos and Freitas 1941, 1942, Travassos et al. 1969, Arruda et al. 2001, Dias et al. 2003b, Pinto et al. 2004).

This work aimed to study the digenetic trematodes clinostomids parasites of fishes collected in Lake Arari, Marajó Island, State of Pará, Brazil, analyzing morphological structures on the helminth species, and parasitological indexes related to prevalence, mean intensity, mean abundance, infection range, and sites of infection.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

From August to December 2009, were collected 102 specimens of gold wolf fish, *Hopleryttrinus unitaeniatus* (Spix and Agassiz 1829) of weight

107-376g and with a standard length of 15.4-25 cm, 104 specimens of thraira, *Hoplias malabaricus* (Bloch 1794), of weight 110-530g and with a standard length of 17.8-27.2 cm, in the Arari Lake, Marajó Island, State of Pará (PA), Brazil (00°39'48" S, 49°10'30" W). The fish were kept in isothermic boxes with ice and transported to the Laboratório de Parasitologia Animal da Universidade Federal Rural da Amazônia, Campus Belém, PA. After tegumental surface was inspected, the specimens were necropsied, the organs were separated, and transferred to the Petri dishes with 0.65% NaCl solution and analyzed under stereoscopic microscope. The fish fillets were obtained by incision of musculature, from area close to the operculum to caudal fin, analyzed by candling table, and the parasites were collected. For morphologic and morphometric studies, whole mounts of the metacercariae were made according to Amato et al. (1991) and Eiras et al. (2006) methodology. Drawings were made with the aid of a drawing tube connected to a Olympus BX 41 brightfield microscope. For studies in scanning electron microscope (SEM), metacercariae samples were fixed in 2.5% glutaraldehyde in a sodium cacodylate buffer solution 0.1 M, pH 7.4, submitted to six washings with the same buffer at intervals of 15 minutes and post-fixed in 1% osmium tetroxide, dehydrated in a graded ethanol series (20-100 °GL) for one hour each step, CO<sub>2</sub> critical-point dried, coated in gold (20-25 nm deposited) and examined, and images were obtained by digital acquisition system using a scanning electronic microscope LEO 1450 VP, under an accelerating voltage of 15 Kvolts in the Laboratório de Microscopia Eletrônica do Instituto Evandro Chagas (IEC), Belém, PA. The digenetic trematodes metacercariae were identified based on Kanev et al. (2002). On the description the terms forebody and hindbody followed *sensu* Manter (1970). Measurements were in millimetres (mm), with the range followed by means indicated in parentheses. Prevalence, intensity, mean intensity,

abundance, and mean abundance were obtained in accordance with Bush et al. (1997), the range of infection and infection sites of each helminth species, were also presented. Voucher specimens were deposited in the Coleção Helmintológica do Instituto Oswaldo Cruz (CHIOC), State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The studied metacercariae were compared with adult and metacercaria specimens of different states of Brazil deposited on CHIOC.

## RESULTS

In both fish species analyzed, living and non-encysted clinostomid metacercariae specimens of two different species described below, were found.

Clinostomoidea Lühe, 1901

Clinostomidae Lühe, 1901

Clinostominae Lühe, 1901

*Clinostomatopsis* Dollfus, 1932

*Clinostomatopsis sorbens* (Braun, 1899) Dollfus, 1932 (Figures 1a-b, 2a-b)

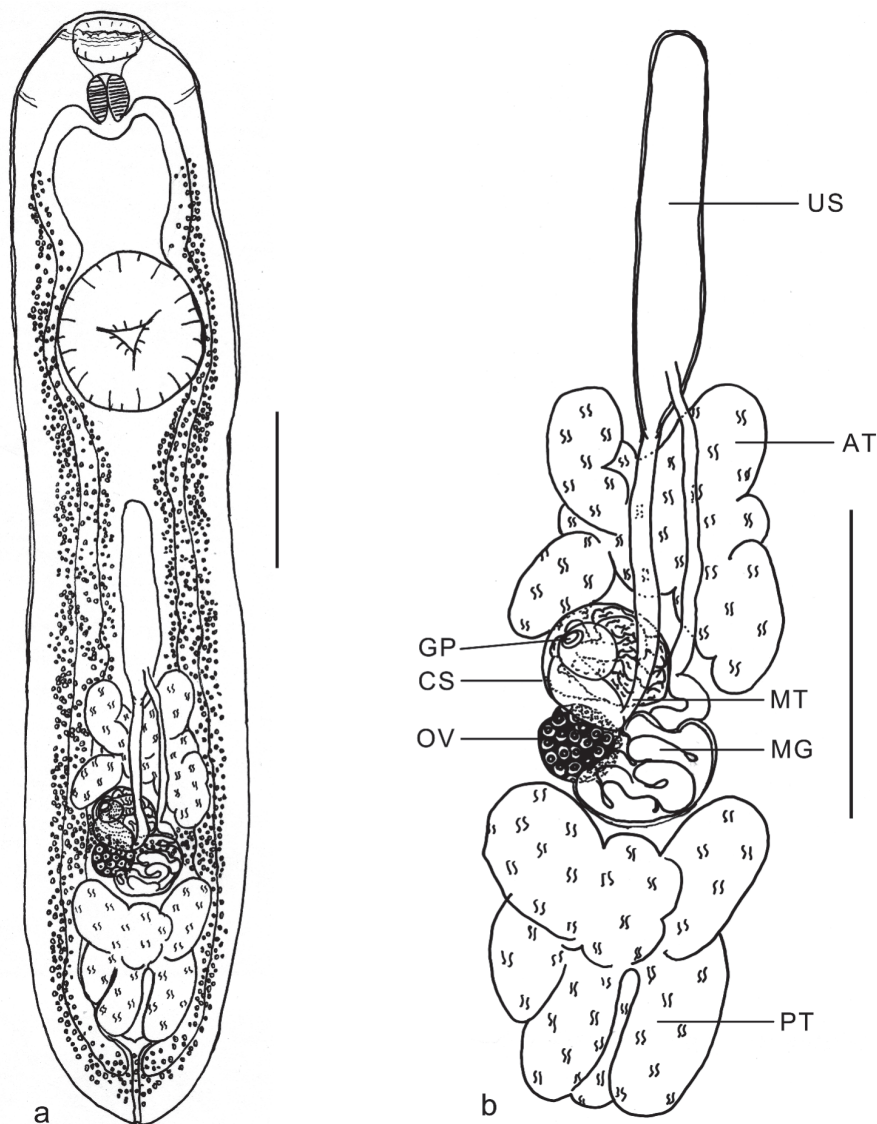
## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Body stout, linguiform, convex dorsally and concave ventrally (Figure 1a). Body surface, smooth without demarcated ridges or rings, and tegument aspinous. Oral sucker subterminal, small, surrounded by incomplete collar-like fold (Figure 2a, b). Ventral sucker, well developed, strongly muscular, in anterior half of body, opening subtriangular, marked by a groove around it (Figure 2a, c). Prepharynx short and pharynx well developed. Caeca simple, long, slightly sinuous. Testes tandem, large, deeply lobed, in posterior half of body; cirrus-sac, median, intertesticular, intercecal, containing seminal vesicle coiled. Genital pore, median, intertesticular, slightly protuberant (Figures 1a, b, 2a, d). Ovary, intercecal, intertesticular, below the cirrus-sac. Uterus tubular, intercecal, median, extends to above of anterior testis and opens into uterine sac, not reaching the ventral sucker level. Metraterm, ventral to cirrus-

sac. Vitelline follicles, extending in extra-, infra-, and supracecal fields from hindbody until half of forebody below cecal bifurcation, confluent below to posterior testis; vitellogut anterior to ovary. Mehlis' gland larger than ovary, latero-sinistral to ovary, posterior to cirrus-sac (Figure 1a, b). Excretory vesicle Y-shaped; excretory pore dorso-terminal (Figure 1a).

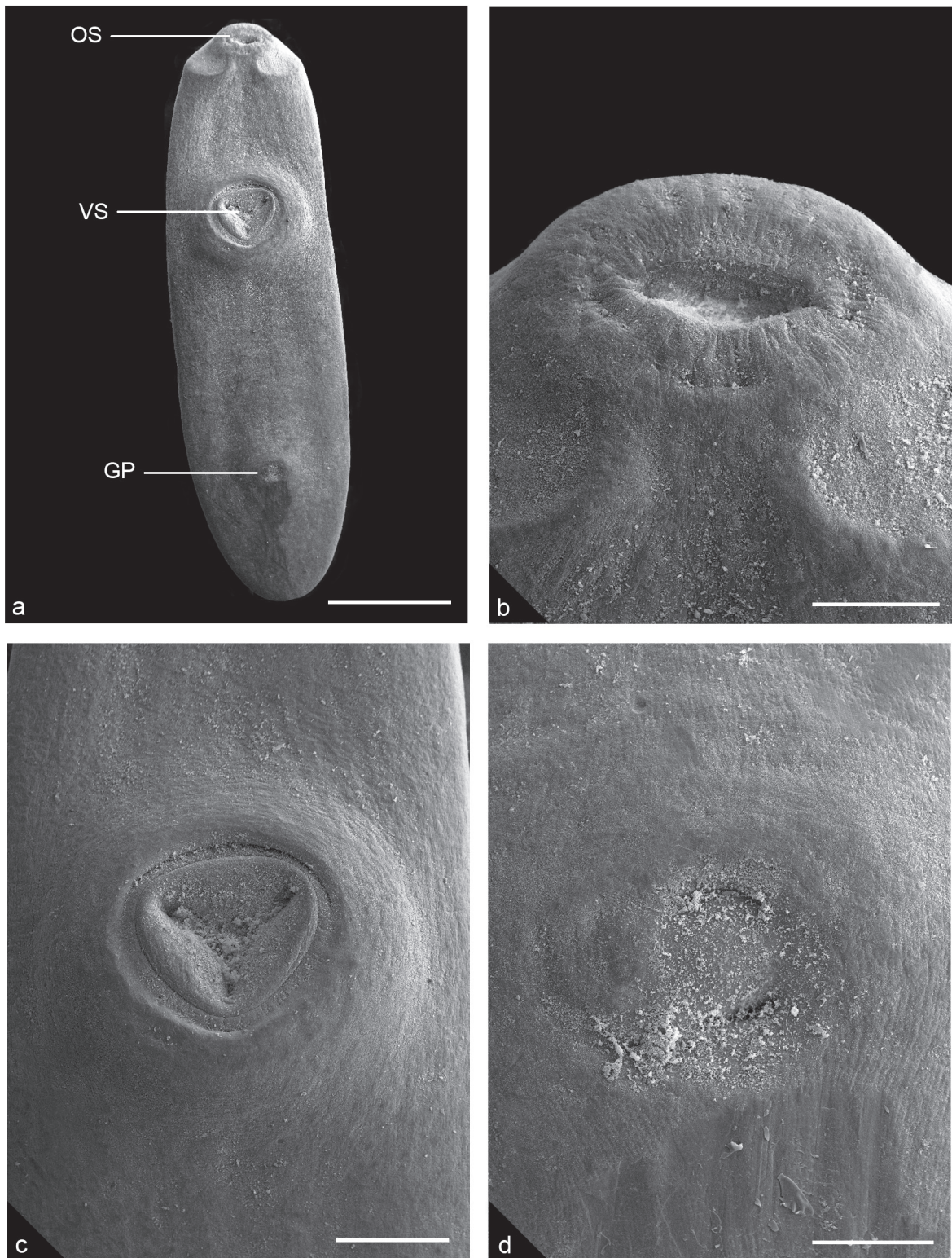
#### MEASUREMENTS

Of three specimens from *Hoplerytinus unitaeniatus*: Body 7.00-9.10 (7.70) long, 1.45-1.80 (1.58) wide. Hindbody 4.15-5.48 (4.68) long; forebody 1.55-2.32 (1.81) long. Oral sucker 0.27-0.30 (0.29), long, 0.41-0.45 (0.43) wide; prepharynx 0.05 long, 0.15-0.25 (0.20) wide; pharynx 0.30-0.39 (0.35) long, 0.27-0.32 (0.29) wide. Caeca 4.92-6.20 (5.68)



**Figure 1** - Metacercaria of *Clinostomatopsis sorbens* from *Hoplerytinus unitaeniatus*: **a.** Total, ventral view. **b.** Detail of genital organs, anterior testis (AT), posterior testis (PT), ovary (OV), Mehlis' gland (MG), uterine sac (US), metraterm (MT), cirrus-sac (CS) and genital pore (GP). The scale bars in **a** and **b** = 1.0 mm.





**Figure 2** - Metacercaria of *Clinostomatopsis sorbens* from *Hoplerytrinus unitaeniatus* by SEM: **a.** Total, ventral view, oral sucker (OS), ventral sucker (VS) and genital pore (GP). **b.** Detail of oral sucker. **c.** Detail of ventral sucker. **d.** Detail of genital pore. The scale bars in **a** = 1.0 mm, **b** = 0.05 mm, **c** = 0.3 mm and **d** = 0.075 mm.

long, 0.06-0.24 (0.16) wide. Ventral sucker 1.07-1.30 (1.22) long, 1.00-1.17 (1.11) wide. Anterior testis 0.78-1.04 (0.89) long, 0.68-0.89 (0.81) wide; posterior testis 0.73-1.08 (0.88) long, 0.58-0.90 (0.74) wide; cirrus-sac 0.31-0.48 (0.40) long, 0.37-0.42 (0.40) wide. Ovary 0.14-0.22 (0.19) long, 0.15-0.23 (0.19) wide. Uterine sac 1.12-2.00 (1.62) long, 0.21-0.25 (0.23) wide.

Of three specimens from *Hoplias malabaricus*: Body 7.00-8.10 (7.50) long, 1.60-2.05 (1.87) wide. Forebody 1.87-2.32 (2.15) long; hindbody 3.86-4.66 (4.13) long. Oral sucker 0.45-0.48 (0.47) long, 0.27-0.30 (0.28) wide; prepharynx 0.07-0.12 (0.09) long, 0.20 wide; pharynx 0.40-0.45 (0.42) long, 0.34-0.38 (0.36) wide. Caeca 6.29-7.52 (6.82) long, 0.29-0.50 (0.37) wide. Ventral sucker 1.17-1.27 (1.21) long 1.12-1.22 (1.16) wide. Anterior testis 0.55-0.91 (0.76), 0.63-0.90 (0.76) wide; posterior testis 0.65-0.87 (0.78) long, 0.53-0.70 (0.60) wide; cirrus-sac 0.51-0.60 (0.55) long, 0.33-0.38 (0.36) wide. Ovary 0.18-0.22 (0.20) long, 0.13-0.21 (0.17) wide; uterine sac 1.30-1.60 (1.45) long, 0.22-0.30 (0.26) wide.

#### TAXONOMIC SUMMARY

**Hosts:** *Hopleryttrinus unitaeniatus* (Spix and Agassiz 1829) and *Hoplias malabaricus* (Bloch, 1794).

**Locality:** Arari Lake, Marajó Island, PA, Brazil.  
Site of infection: Mesentery.

**Infected fish:** 44 *H. unitaeniatus* and 32 *H. malabaricus*.

**Numbers of collected specimens:** 111 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 59 (*H. malabaricus*).

**Prevalence:** 43.14% (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 30.77% (*H. malabaricus*).

**Mean intensity:** 2.52 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 1.84 (*H. malabaricus*).

**Mean abundance:** 1.09 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 0.57 (*H. malabaricus*).

**Range of infection:** 1-9 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 1-7 (*H. malabaricus*)

**Material deposited:** From *H. unitaeniatus* (CHIOC 35769, 37520 a-b, wet material and CHIOC 37521, whole mount). From *Hoplias malabaricus* (CHIOC 35770, wet material and 37522 a-c, whole mount). Material examined: 107 adults. Adults from *Mycteria americana* L., Parapanema, State of São Paulo, (CHIOC 163 (n=3) and 8180 (n=59), wet material); São João, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 3493-4 (n=2), whole mount and CHIOC 3531-2 (n=39), 3734 (n=1), wet material); São Lourenço River, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 3909 (n=1), wet material); Jaurú, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 6361 (n=2), wet material). 2 metacercariae. Metacercariae from *Hoplias malabaricus* (Bloch, 1794), Salobra, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 11288 (n=1), whole mount); from *Hopleryttrinus unitaeniatus*, Salobra, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 11289 (n=1), whole mount).

#### REMARKS

*Clinostomatopsis sorbens* (Braun 1899) Dollfus, 1932 was described by Diesing (1850) as *Distomum dimorphum* from samples collected in specimens of *Mycteria americana* (= *Ciconia americana*) (Ciconiidae) in Brazil. Later, Dollfus (1932) created the genus *Clinostomatopsis* for the specimens described by Diesing (1850). Species of the genus *Clinostomatopsis* Dollfus, 1932 are known to be parasitizing the esophagus of neotropical birds, characterized by the presence of cirrus-sac and genital pore intertesticular (Lunaschi and Drago 2009).

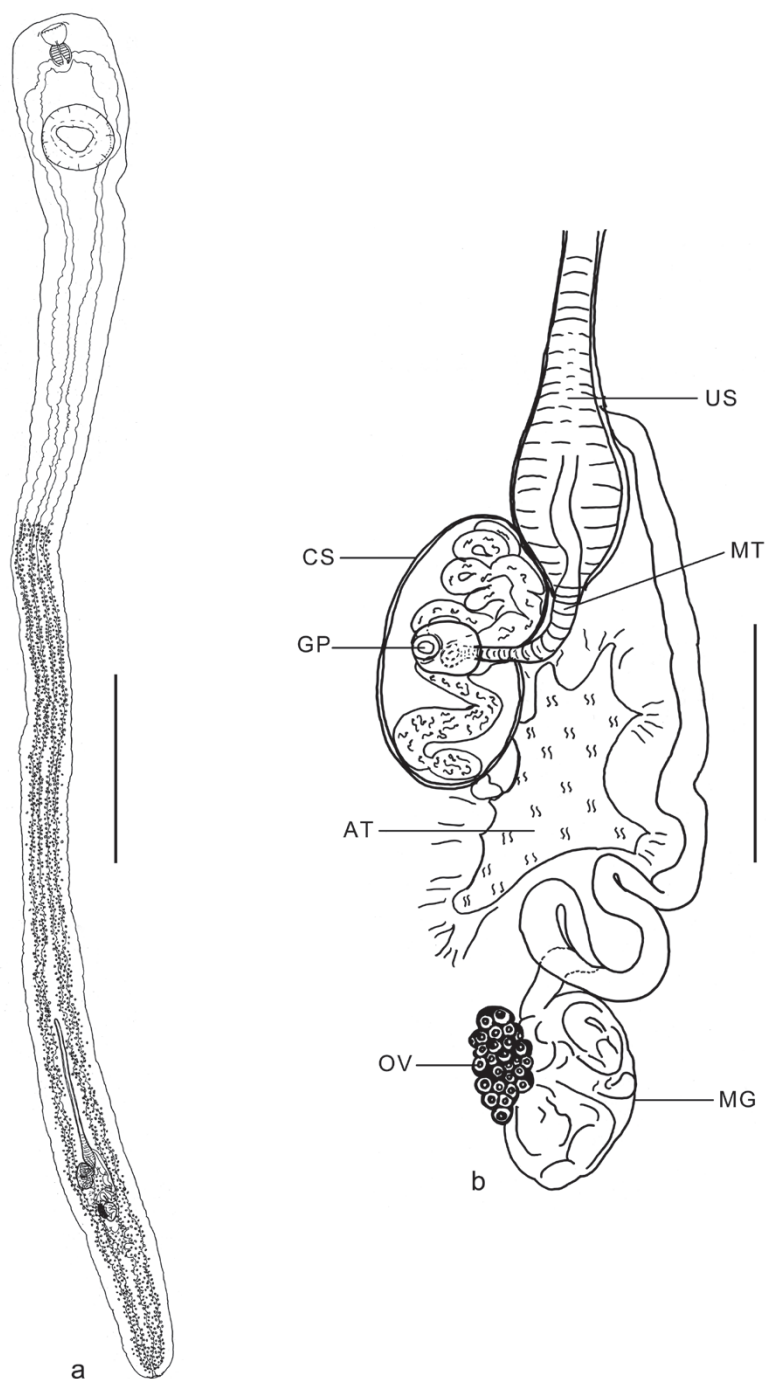
For generic diagnose, Kanev et al. (2002) was used, and specific diagnose was based on descriptions of Travassos et al. (1969) and Lunaschi and Drago (2009), and the present paper adds details about external and internal structures, mainly on suckers, genital pore and terminal genitalia.

In Brazil it was reported in *Ardea coccoi*, *M. americana* and *Jabiru mycteria* (Travassos 1922, 1928, Viana 1924, Travassos et al. 1969), and in Argentina from *Tigrisoma lineatum* (Lunaschi and

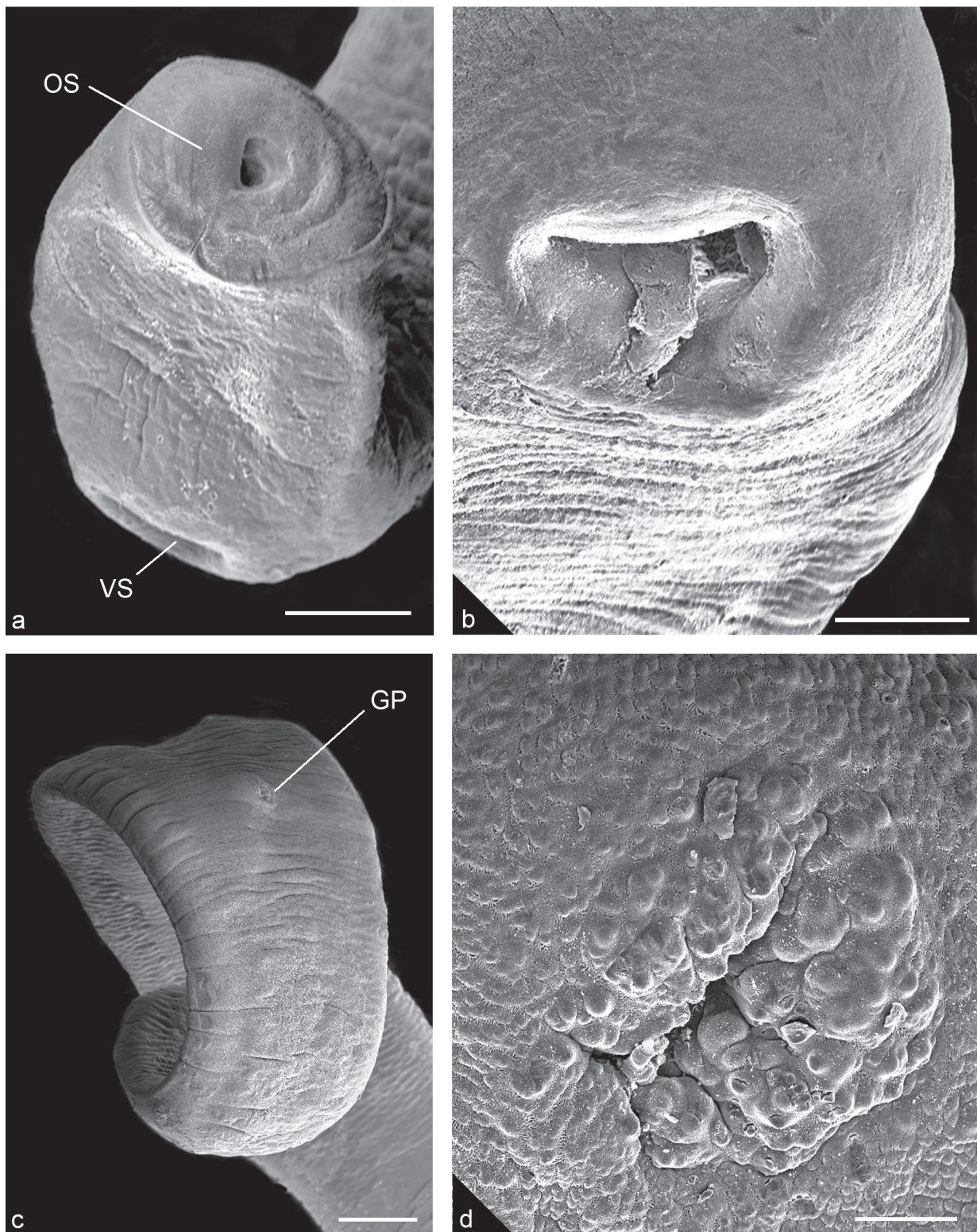


Drago 2009). It was reported in *H. malabaricus* and *H. unitaeniatus* in Salobra, State of Mato Grosso, Brazil (Travassos 1940). This is the first report of metacercariae of *C. sorbens* in Amazonian fish.

Ithyoclinostominae Yamaguti, 1958  
*Ithyoclinostomum* Witenberg, 1925  
*Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum* (Diesing, 1850)  
 Witenberg, 1926 (Figs. 3a-b, 4a-d)



**Figure 3** - Metacercaria of *Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum* from *Hopleryrinus unitaeniatus*. **a.** Total, ventral view. **b.** Detail of genital organs, anterior testis (AT), ovary (OV), Mehlis' gland (MG), uterine sac (US), metraterm (MT), cirrus-sac (CS) and genital pore (GP). The scale bars in **a** = 3.2 mm and **b** = 0.4 mm.



**Figure 4** - Metacercaria of *Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum* from *Hopleryrtrinus unitaeniatus* by SEM: **a.** Anterior end, ventral view, oral sucker (OS) and ventral sucker (VS). **b.** Detail of ventral sucker. **c.** Posterior end, ventral view, genital pore (GP). **d.** Detail of genital pore. The scale bars in **a** and **c** = 0.5 mm, **b** = 0.3 mm and **d** = 0.05 mm.



## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Body elongated, flattened (Figure 3a). Body surface with rounded sensory papillae, furrows and rings forming superficial annulations, dorsal and ventral, both in the forebody and hindbody (Figure 4a, b, c). Oral sucker, terminal, triangular aperture, surrounded by an expansion of the body wall such as collar-like and radial furrows in the surface (Figure 3a, 4a); pharynx present. Caeca simple, long, without lateral branches or diverticula. Ventral sucker, near anterior extremity of body, close to oral sucker, subtriangular aperture (Figures 3a, 4a, b). Testes lobed, medians, intercecal, in the posterior half of body; cirrus-sac, destro antero-lateral to anterior testis, intercecal, internal seminal vesicle coiled (Figure 3a, b). Genital pore, ventral to cirrus-sac, slightly prominent, surrounded by tegumental rugosities and papillae (Figures 3b, 4c, d). Ovary, intertesticular (Figure 3a, b). Uterus, intercecal, originating from the Mehlis' gland, ascending sinistral to anterior testis reaching uterine sac (Figure 3a, b). Uterine sac elongated, median, intercecal. Metraterm, ventro-lateral to cirrus-sac, converging in a genital atrium (Figure 3b). Vitelline follicles, caecals, extending from hindbody to the end of the first third of body, below cecal bifurcation, confluent on posterior end; vitellogland anterior to ovary; considerable space free of internal organs between ventral sucker and anterior limit of vitellarium (Figure 3a). Mehlis' gland larger than ovary, median, between testis, latero-dorsal to ovary (Figure 3a, b). Excretory vesicle Y-shaped; excretory pore dorso-terminal (Figure 3a).

## MEASUREMENTS

Of one specimen from *Hoplerytinus unitaeniatus*: Body 23.55 long, 1.9 maximum width. Forebody 1.55 long, hindbody 20.85 long. Oral sucker 0.36 long, 0.40 wide; pharynx 0.32 long, 0.23 wide. Caeca 22.85 long, 0.42 wide. Ventral sucker 1.15 long, 1.25 wide. Anterior testis 0.47 long, 0.34 wide; posterior testis 0.45 long, 0.23 wide; cirrus-sac 0.45 long, 0.27 wide. Ovary 0.18 long, 0.12 wide. Uterine sac 2.5 long, 0.25 maximum width.

## TAXONOMIC SUMMARY

**Hosts:** *Hoplerytinus unitaeniatus* and *Hoplias malabaricus*.

**Locality:** Arari Lake, Marajó Island, PA, Brazil.

**Site of infection:** Mesentery and musculature of *H. unitaeniatus* and musculature of *H. malabaricus*. Infected fish: 3 *H. unitaeniatus* and 1 *H. malabaricus*.

**Numbers of collected specimens:** 8 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 2 (*H. malabaricus*).

**Prevalence:** 2.94% (*H. unitaeniatus*) e 0.96% (*H. malabaricus*).

**Mean intensity:** 2.67 (*H. unitaeniatus*).

Intensity of infection: 8 (*H. unitaeniatus*) and 2 (*H. malabaricus*).

**Mean abundance:** 0.08 (*H. unitaeniatus*).

**Range of infection:** 1-4 (*H. unitaeniatus*).

**Material deposited:** From *H. unitaeniatus* (CHIOC 35768, wet material and CHIOC 37519 whole mount).

**Material examined:** 30 adults. Adults from *Nicticorax* sp., Pirassununga, State of São Paulo (CHIOC 156 (n=1) and 8316 (n=2), wet material); from *Ardea cocoi* Linnaeus, 1766, Paraná River, State of Paraná (CHIOC 2405 (n=6), wet material), São João, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 3533 (n=1), CHIOC 3534 (n=1), whole mount), Manguinhos, State of Rio de Janeiro (CHIOC 7972 (n=1), wet material), Marajó Island, PA (CHIOC 10586 (n=1), wet material), Salobra, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 12810 (n=2), 12821 (n=1), 12938 (n=1), 13357 (n=1), wet material) and Barão de Melgaço, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 34662 (n=7), wet material); from *Tigrisoma brasiliense* (L., 1758), São João, State of Mato Grosso (CHIOC 3520-2 (n=5), wet material). 5 metacercariae. Metacercariae from *Hoplias malabaricus*, Juparaná Lagoon, State of Espírito Santo (CHIOC 29427 (n=1), whole mount) and Lages Reservoir, State of Rio de Janeiro (CHIOC 35433 (n=3), wet material); from *Schizodon borellii* (Boulenger 1900), Paraná River, Porto Rico, State of Paraná (CHIOC 32984 (n=1), wet material).

## REMARKS

Adults of *I. dimorphum* have been reported parasitizing birds, *A. cocoi*, from State of Pará and State of Mato Grosso and Paraná River Basin (Travassos 1928, Lent and Freitas 1937, Travassos and Freitas 1941, 1942, Travassos et al. 1969, Dias et al. 2003b, Pinto et al. 2004), and from *Nycticorax* sp. and *Tigrisoma lineatum* of State of São Paulo and State of Mato Grosso do Sul (Arruda et al. 2001) and *Ardea alba* and *Nycticorax nycticorax* from Mato Grosso wetland (Pinto et al. 2004). Lent and Freitas (1937) have reported it from the same locality of the present study, which corroborates with our findings.

Metacercariae of *I. dimorphum* were reported from *H. malabaricus* of State of Espírito Santo, (Travassos et al. 1964); State of Paraná (Pavanelli et al. 1990); State of Rio Grande do Sul (Weiblen and Brandão 1992, Fortes et al. 1996, Gallio et al. 2007, Rodrigues 2010); State of Rio de Janeiro (Paraguassú and Luque 2007); from *H. malabaricus* and *H. unitaeniatus* of State of Minas Gerais (Moreira 2000), *Schizodon borelli* of High Paraná River Basin (Machado et al. 1996). This is the first report of metacercariae of *I. dimorphum* in Amazonian fish.

For generic diagnose Kanev et al. (2002) was used and specific diagnose was based on descriptions of Lent and Freitas (1937) and Travassos et al. (1969), and the present paper adds details about external and internal structures, mainly on suckers, genital pore and terminal genitalia.

In Brazil that metacercaria was reported parasitizing the mesentery, musculature, heart, esophagus, cloaca, gills, opercula and fins (Pavanelli et al. 1990, Moreira 2000, Rodrigues 2010). In the present study, the prevalence indices were lower than those recorded in *H. malabaricus* by Pavanelli et al. (1990), Weiblen and Brandão (1992), Paraguassú and Luque (2007) and Rodrigues (2010), but the mean intensity of infection was very close to those recorded by Pavanelli et al. (1990) (1.53), Weiblen and Brandão (1992) (2.8),

and Rodrigues (2010) (2.52), this may be related to different ecological factors of the collection locations.

Dias et al. (2003b) by SEM described the oral sucker aperture of *I. dimorphum* as elliptical, which differs from the specimens studied in the present work, which showed apertures being triangular; but are in accordance with body surface with rounded sensory papillae, furrows and rings forming superficial annulations, dorsal and ventral, both in the forebody and hindbody (Figures 3a-b, 4a-d) and ventral sucker with subtriangular aperture (Figures 3a-b).

## DISCUSSION

This is the first report of *C. sorbens* and *I. dimorphum* metacercariae in Amazonian fish species, adding morphological contributions on the external and internal structures mainly on suckers, genital pore, and terminal genitalia, which will be useful for future researches. The data obtained from this study on fish species caught in Arari Lake, Marajó Island confirm the role that these fish play in the life cycle of *C. sorbens* e *I. dimorphum*.

The presence of living and non-encysted clinostomid metacercariae species findings in this study on both fish species, brings out certain interesting facts concerning hygienic-sanitary, and about the potential hazard to human health, because other Clinostomatidae species have been reported to cause laryngitis, laryngo-pharigitis and in also an eye infection, or even have often been rejected by consumers because of their repugnance aspect when they are present on the musculature, viscera or abdominal cavity (Kabunda and Sommerville 1984, Williams and Jones 1994, Chung et al. 1995, Tiewchaloern et al. 1999). The previous species of clinostomids were involved in human infections belonging to other known species, we suggest further investigation concerning the role of these Brazilian clinostomids, because the visual analysis of the parasite species (visible and sometimes very large) of the contaminated fish specimens, take it into account that their discharge is recommended and foreseen

by the legislation of several countries including Brazil, Spain and France, among others (Brasil 2007).

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#### RESUMO

Espécies de peixes da Ilha de Marajó, Estado do Pará, Brasil, foram examinadas para identificar os trematódeos parasitando 102 *Hoplerytrinus unitaeniatus* (jejú) e 104 *Hoplias malabaricus* (traíra). Identificados como *Clinostomatopsis sorbens* e *Ithyoclinostomum dimorphum*. Os índices parasitários de *C. sorbens* de *H. unitaeniatus* e *H. malabaricus*, foram 43,14% e 30,77% de prevalência, 2,52 e 1,84 de intensidade média, 1,09 e 0,57 de abundância média e 1 a 9 e 1 a 7 de variação da amplitude de infecção, respectivamente, em ambos o sítio de infecção foi o mesentério. Os índices parasitários de *I. dimorphum* de *H. unitaeniatus* foram 2,94% de prevalência, 2,66 de intensidade média, 0,08 de abundância média, 1 a 4 de variação da amplitude de infecção, e os sítios de infecção foram o mesentério e a musculatura. Metacercárias de *I. dimorphum* foram coletadas na musculatura de um espécime de *H. malabaricus*, com 0,96% de prevalência, com intensidade de infecção de 2 parasitos e 0,02 de abundância. São apresentadas novos dados sobre a morfologia das estruturas externas e internas. Este é o primeiro registro de metacercárias de *C. sorbens* e de *I. dimorphum* em peixes amazônicos.

**Palavras-chave:** Clinostomidae, *Hoplerytrinus unitaeniatus*, *Hoplias malabaricus*, Brasil.

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