

REDESCRIPTION OF *TERATOTREMA DUBIUM* TRAVASSOS, ARTIGAS & PEREIRA, 1928 (CALLODISTOMIDAE: DIGENEA)

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Teratotrema dubium Travassos, Artigas & Pereira, 1928, a digenetic trematode parasite of *Pseudocurimata plumbea* (Curimatidae: Pisces) is redescribed with additional morphological data, confirming the presence of a single testis.

Key words: *Teratotrema dubium* – trematode – *Pseudocurimata plumbea* – fish

In 1928 Travassos et al., described the new genus and species *Teratotrema dubium* based on one mature specimen parasite from the gall bladder of *Pseudocurimata* sp. (= *Curimatinae* sp. sensu Travassos et al., 1928), from Pirassununga, São Paulo state.

Studies on helminth parasites of fishes from the same locality were carried out by Travassos & cols. in 1946, 1947, 1962, and this trematode was not reported.

Travassos & Kohn (1965) published a list of the helminths parasites of fishes from Emas, Pirassununga and referred as *Curimata elegans* Steind, the species of "sagüiru" examined in 1927. In the publication on Brazilian trematodes (Travassos et al., 1969) it was reported by mistake at page 720, a reference of two more hosts for *T. dubium*: *Astyanax bimaculatus* (L.) and *Pimelodus fuer* (Lutk).

In 1983, two immature specimens of this species had been recovered from one *P. plumbea* out of 14 examined in Pirassununga (Kohn et al., 1985). Two years latter the authors returned, in order to look for the adult form, and among 13 specimens of the type-host examined, only one of them harboured one mature worm.

This is the first report of the adult form of *Teratotrema dubium* since the original description.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The trematode was fixed in Railliet and Henry's fluid through compression, stained with Langeron's carmine, dehydrated in EtOH, cleared in Faia's creosote and mounted in Canada balsam. The illustrations were made with the aid of a drawing tube.

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RESULTS

Teratotrema dubium Travassos, Artigas & Pereira, 1928 (Figs. 1-3)

Host: *Pseudocurimata plumbea* (Eigenmann & Eigenmann, 1889) Curimatidae, common named "sagüiru de rabo vermelho".

Site of infection: gall bladder.

Specimen deposited: Helm. Coll. of the "Instituto Oswaldo Cruz" no. 32.252.

Description based on one specimen. Measurements in millimeters. Large trematode with flattened oval body, 8.31 long by 4.73 wide. Tegument smooth. Oral sucker subterminal



Fig. 1: *Teratotrema dubium*.

DISCUSSION

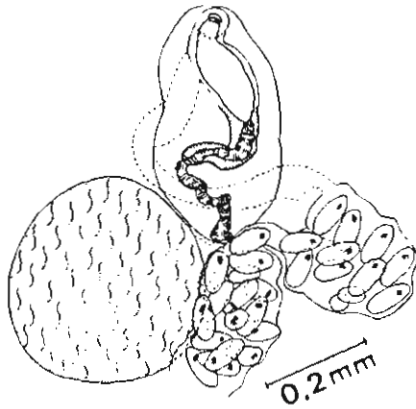


Fig. 2: Terminal genitalia and testis.

0.51 long by 0.61 wide. Ventral sucker pre-equatorial 0.49 long by 0.56 wide. Sucker ratio 1: 0.9. Pharynx 0.29 long by 0.22 wide. Oesophagus short. Caeca wide ending blindly at posterior extremity, with dark content. Genital pore ventral, median, behind esophageal bifurcation. Testis single, pre-acetabular, just behind cirrus pouch, with 0.36 in diameter. Cirrus pouch immediately postbifurcal, 0.42 long by 0.23 wide, containing sinuous seminal vesicle, pars prostatic and cirrus. Ovary median, post-equatorial, 0.34 long by 0.38 wide. Seminal receptacle present, in the area of Mehlis' gland, measure 0.15 long by 0.12 wide. Mehlis' gland well developed, 0.18 long by 0.32 wide. Vitellaria dendritic weakly developed, with caecals and inter-caecals follicles situated in equatorial zone. Uterus occupying all inter-caecal area. Eggs containing well developed miracidium with two eye spots, 0.076 to 0.085 long by 0.035 to 0.038 wide. Excretory vesicle tubular, with terminal pore.

In the description of *Teratotrema dubium*, Travassos et al. (1928) commented on the difficulty in observing the morphology of the worm and referred to the testes being situated in the cirrus pouch field, seeming to be single but with a lobation which could be interpreted as the superposition of two small rounded testes.

The presence of two testes in *Teratotrema* and *Teratotrematinae* had been also referred to by Yamaguti (1971).

The specimen now studied, confirms the presence of a single testis as suggested by Travassos et al. (1928).

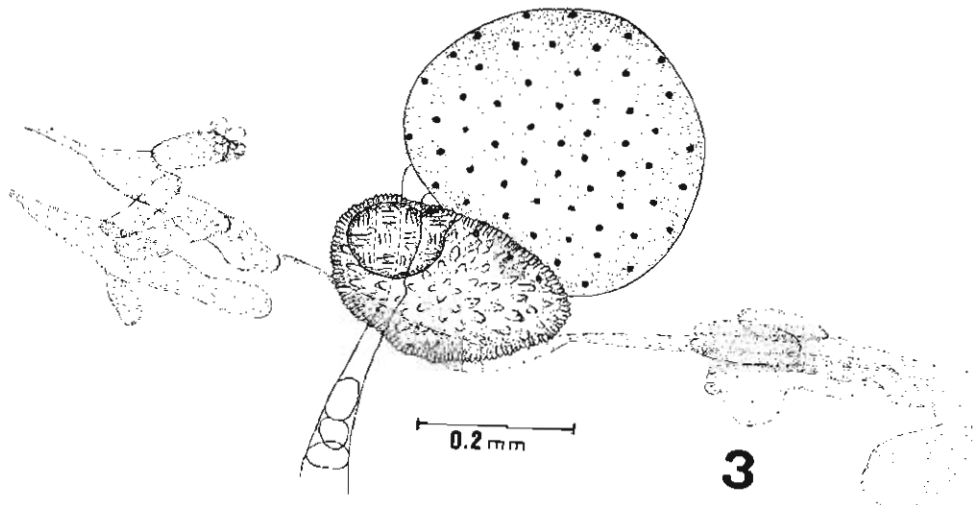
We observed also differences in the eggs' size when measured in creosote and when mounted in Canada balsam, due to the contraction of the egg shell: 0.101 to 0.116mm long by 0.052 to 0.056mm wide in creosote and 0.076 to 0.085mm long by 0.035 to 0.038mm wide after mounted in balsam.

Travassos, et al. referred to eggs with 0.104 to 0.112mm long by 0.056mm wide, which we believe had been measured in creosote. We examined the type-specimen mounted in balsam (no. 6.249 of the Helm. Coll. of the "Instituto Oswaldo Cruz") and we found eggs with 0.075 to 0.085 long by 0.035 to 0.038mm wide, similar to our specimen.

RESUMO

Teratotrema dubium Travassos, Artigas & Pereira, 1928, trematódeo digenético parasita de *Pseudocurimata plumbea* (Curimatidae: Pisces) é redescrito com novos dados morfológicos e figuras originais.

Palavras-chave: *Teratotrema dubium* – trematódeo – *Pseudocurimata plumbea* – peixe



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