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A New Pseudophyllidian Worm From A Freshwater Fish At Velhane, Parola, Jalgaon, M.S., India

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ABSTRACT

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Senga besnardi was the type species obtained from the aquarium fish *Betta splendens* and included under the genus *Senga* established by Dollfus (1934). From then till present, 43 new species have been added to it. The present communication deals with the description of a new species, viz. *Senga mastacembelae sp.nov.* collected from the small intestine of the fresh water fish *Mastacebllus armatus* obtained from Velhane, Tq. Parola Dist. Jalgaon. *S. mastacembelae sp. nov.* is characterized by a distinctly triangular scolex which is broad posteriorly and narrows anteriorly. The rostellum at the narrow end is quadrangular and bears 57 to 59 hooks arranged in 4 quadrants. The hooks are stout, single pronged and pointed at both ends. They are of unequal length. A distinct neck lies below the scolex. The mature segments are two times as broad as their length. The testes are large and rounded, 18 to 21 in number, distributed densely on either side of the ovary. The ovary is large, distinctly bilobed, placed antero-posteriorly, in the posterior region of the segment. The eggs are oval in shape

Keywords: Senga mastacembelae n.sp., Mastacebllus armatus, Velhane..

INTRODUCTION

Dollfus, 1934 established the genus Senga based on the type species S. besnardi from Betta splendens of France. S. ophiocephalina Tseng, 1933 from Ophiocephalus argus at Taimen, China and by Southwell, 1913 from Ophiocephalus striatus in Bengal, India. S. pcynomera Woodland, 1924 as S. pcynomera from ophiocephalus marulius at Allahabad, India. S. lucknowensis from Mastacembellus armatus reported from India by Johri, 1956 at Malacca, Fernando and Furtado, 1963 recorded S. malayana from Channa striata, S.parva and S. filiformis from Channa micropeltes. RamaDevi and Rao, 1966 reported the presence of plurocercoid of Senga sp. From Panchax panchax. Tardos synomised the genus Senga with the genus Polyonchobothrium and proposed a new combination for the species. Furtado and Chauhan, 1971 reported S. pahangensis infecting Channa micropeltes at Tesak Bera. S. besnardi was redescribed by Shinde in 1972 from Ophiocephalus gachua in India. Rama Devi and Rao, 1973 reported another species of S.visakhapatanamensis from India. RamaDevi and Rao, 1973 also described

the life cycle of S. visakhapatnamensis from Ophiocephalus punctatus collected from Andhra Pradesh, India. But they did not agree with Tadros. Wardle et.al., 1974 McLeod and Radinovsky placed Senga as a distinct genus in the family Ptychobothridae. Deshmukh and Shinde, and Deshmukh, 1980 reported the presence of *S*. khami from Ophiocephalus marulius, a fresh water fish from Kham River at Aurangabad. Jadhav and Shinde, 1980 reported S. godavarii infecting M. armatus at Nanded, M.S. India. One more species i.e. S. aurangabadensis was added by Jadhav and Shinde, 1980 from *M. armatus* at Aurangabad M.S. India. An addition was made by Kadam et al. 1981 to the genus *Senga* as *S*. paithanensis from M. armatus. S. mastacembali and S. indica were reported by Gupta and Sinha, 1980 and Gupta and Parmar, 1985 respectively from M. armatus.at Lacknow. S. raoi and S.jagannathae were added to the genus by Majid and Shinde, 1984 from Channa punctatus. Jadhav et al., 1991 erected two new species namely S. maharashtrii and S. gachuae from the intestine of M. armatus. M. Hasnain, 1992 added S.chauhani from Channa puntatus at Jamshedpur. Tat and Jadhav, 1997 added S.mohekarae from the intestine of the M. armatus from M.S. India. Wongsawad and Jadhav, 1998b added S. chaingmaiensis from the intestine of the M. armatus. Patil and Jadhav, 2003 reported S. tappi from M.armatus at Shirpur M.S. India. Hiware 1999 added S. armatusae from the intestine of the *M. armatus* at Pune. Jadhav et al.2005 made a review article on the genus Senga infecting the freshwater fishes of Maharashtra, India. Pande et al.,2006 identified two new species S.ayodhensis from Amphinuous cuchia and S.baugi from Rita rita. Khadap et al.,2007 added S.chandikapurensis from M. armatus. Shrivastav et al., 2007 identified S. tictoi from Puntius ticto at Jhansi. Kankale, 2008 describe S. nathsagarensis from freshwater fish M. armatus. Wankhede and Reddy, 2009 reported S. kaigaonensis from freshwater fish M. armatus. Mulla and Kharde, 2009 added S. bhauraoae from freshwater fish *M. armatus* at Kolhapur, M.S. India. Bhure & Nanware, 2011 describe S. sataraensis from M. armatus. Dhole et al., 2011 identified two new species S. rostellarae and S. chandrashekhari from freshwater fish M. armatus. Jadhav et al., 2012 reported *S. govindii* from *M.armatus*. Sawarkar,2012 describe S. maharashtrii from freshwater fish M. armatus in Chandrabhaga River at Daryapur, M.S. India. Nanware et al., 2016 describe S. triangulata from M. armatus at Hadgaon, Dist. Nanded, M.S. India. Ruma Koiri and B. Roy, 2017 added Senga sp. in Monopterus cuchia from Tripura. Recently Kaul and Kalse, 2018 identified two new species of the genus Senga i.e. S. shindei from Ophiocephalus punctatus in Pawana river and S. oreochromisae from Oreochromis mozambica in Pashan Lake of Pune region respectively.

Fish is an excellent and cheap source of protein having low in saturated fats and high in essential minerals and vitamins. The amount of protein in fish muscles ranges between 15% and 20% and that of carbohydrate content between 18% and 21%. However, the progress in the fish production is hindered by the parasitic infections, mainly in the tropical region. The parasites of edible fishes affect the economy of decreasing or rejection of the edible fish products leading to subsequent loss of interest in the aquaculture industries.

This communication reports the occurrence of the cestode parasites in the fresh water fish *Mastacebllus armatus* collected from Velhane, Tq. Parola Dist. Jalgaon.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The cestodes were collected from the intestine of fresh water fish Mastacembellus armatus at Velhane Tq. Parola, Dist. Jalgaon, M.S., India, in the month of February, 2018. Parasites were washed in saline solution. Some of them were flattened and preserved in 70% ethanol while others were preserved in 10% formalin. The flattened specimens were stained in Harris-Haematoxylin, dehydrated and processed for whole mount preparations. Drawings are made with the aid of camera lucida. Microphotographs were taken by using the digital camera. All measurements are in millimeters. The detailed observation from the above aids was recorded for the purpose of determining the taxonomical status of the cestode worms under study. "Systema Helminthum" by Yamaguti (1959) was used for the purpose of identification.

RESULTS

All the cestodes are medium to long in size and with scolex, immature, mature and some gravid proglottides. The scolex is triangular, narrow anteriorly broad posteriorly and measures 0.680 to 0.756 in length and 0.234 to 0.611 in breadth. The scolex bears, overlapping two bothria, which extend from the anterior end to the posterior end of the scolex. The bothria measure 0.54 to 0.638 in length and 0.079 to 0.186 in breadth. The anterior end of scolex terminates in quadrangular shape of rostellum, which is armed and measures 0.132 to 0.159 in length and 0.138 to 0.164 in breadth. The

rostellum bears circularly arranged hooks and they are 57 to 59 in number. The hooks are stout, single pronged of unequal length, pointed at both ends. The longer hooks measure 0.5 in length and 0.12 in breadth while shorter hooks measure 0.175 in length and 0.075 in breadth. The neck is short. The mature segments are broader than long, about two times broader that long and measure 0.29 to 0.33 in lengths and 0.59 to 0.61 in breadth. The testes are large in size, rounded in shape 18 to 21 in number, and distributed densely on the either side of the ovary and measure 0.079 to 0.132 in diameter. The cirrus pouch is medium, elongated, obliquely placed, in middle to anterior half of the segment and measures 0.74 in length and 0.026 in breadth. It opens at its distal end by common genital opening at the middle of the segment. The cirrus is thin, present within the cirrus pouch and measures 0.079 in length and 0.007 in breadth. The vas deferens is short, thin extends anteriorly and measures 0.053 in length and 0.007 in breadth. The genital pore is small in size, oval in shape; it opens in middle of the segment and measures 0.014 in length and 0.007 in breadth. The ovary is large in size, distinctly bilobed, placed anteroposteriorly, in the posterior region of the segment and measures 0.159 to 0.170 in length and 0.053 to 0.063 in breadth. The vagina is thin tube, slightly curved, arises from the genital pore runs posteriorly, obliquely and opens into the ootype and measures 0.106 in length and 0.010 in breadth. The ootype is medium in size, round in shape, present between the ovarian lobes and measures 0.021 in diameter. The vitellaria are granular, on each lateral side from anterior to posterior margin of the segment, arranged in 5 to 6 rows on lateral side. The eggs are oval in shape, the larger eggs measure 0.94 in length and 0.5 in breadth, smaller eggs measure 0.72 in length and 0.32 in breadth.

Genus - Senga mastacembelae n.sp. Host- Mastacebllus armatus Habitat – Intestine Locality - Velhane, Tq. Parola, Dist. Jalgaon. M.S., India. No of specimens – 09 in 9 slides Holotype- Deposited in Helminth Research Laboratory Paratype – P.G. & Helminth Research Laboratory, Department of Zoology, Nanasaheb Y. N. Chavan ASC College, Chalisgaon, Dist. Jalgaon, (M.S.), India Date – 16 February, 2018.

Etymology - *Senga mastacembelae n.sp.* is proposed after the genus name of the host.



Fig. 1: Camera Lucida sketch of *Senga mastacembelae* n.sp. **A**:Scolex; **B**. Hooks; **C**. Mature segments; **D**. Eggs



Fig. 2: Microphotographs of *Senga mastacembelae* n.sp. A: Scolex (X 150); B. Mature segments (X 600); C. Eggs (X 600)

DISCUSSION

The triangular shaped scolex of the parasite shows resemblance with *Senga pahangensis*, Furtado and Chaulan, 1971; *S. paithanensis*, Kadam and Shinde, 1981; *S. chaingmaiensis*, Wongsawad and Jadhav, 1998; *S. armatusae*, Hiware, 1999, *S. tappi*, Patil and Jadhav, 2003; *S. baughi*, Pande et al., 2006; *S. kaigaonensis*, Wankhede and Reddy, 2009; *S. panzaraensis*, Mangale and Kalse, 2009; *S. madhavae*, Bhure et al., 2010; *S. govindii* Jadhav et al., 2012 and *S.triangulate* Nanware et al., 2016 in its shape i.e. being triangular shaped however the same differs from *Senga pahangensis in* the num,ber of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 52), in vitellaria (granular vs. lobulated and in host (*M. armatus* vs. *C. micropeltes*).

The present form differs from, *S. paithanensis* in the num,ber of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 54) and in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 130 to 135).

The present parasite differs from, *S. chaingmaiensis*, in the number of hooks only (57 to 59 vs. 28).

The present tapeworm differs from, *S. armatusae*, in the num,ber of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 32 to 40); in the neck (present vs. absent); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 230 to 240) and in the vitellaria (granular vs. follicular).

The present worm is differs from, *S. tappi*, in the num, ber of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 42 to 44); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 285 to 295) and in the vitellaria (granular vs. follicular).

The present form differs from, *S. baughi*, in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 50 to 54); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 310 to 320); in the shape of ovary (bilobed vs. unilobed) and in the vitellaria (granular vs. follicular).

The present parasite differs from, *S. kaigaonensis*, in the number of testes only (18 to 21 vs. 285 to 295). The present worm differs from, *S. panzaraensis* in the mature segment (2 times broader than long vs. 5 times broader than long) and in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 40 to 45).

The present tapeworm differs from *S. madhavae* in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 40 to 44); in the mature segment (2 times broader than long vs. 5-6 times

broader than long) and in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 200 to 225).

The present form differs from *S. govindii* in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 45 to 50); in the mature segment (2 times broader than long vs. 3 times broader than long) and in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 100 to 130).

The present parasite differs from *S.triangulate* in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 28 to 30); in the neck (present vs. absent); in the mature segment (2 times broader than long vs. 4-5 times broader than long); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 50 to 60) and in the vitellaria (granular vs. follicular).

Granular vitellarium of the present parasite resembles *S. besnardi,* Dollfus, 1934 , *S. jagennathae,* Majid and Shinde,1984 , *S. raoi,* Majid and Shinde,1984 , *, , , S. sataraensis,* Bhure & Nanware, 2011 , *Senga sp.* Ruma Koiri and B. Roy, 2017 and *S. shindei* Kaul and Kalse, 2018. however, different from *S. besnardi* in the shape of the scolex (triangular vs. Rectangular); in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 44 to 47); in the neck (present vs. absent); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 160 to 175) and in the host (*M. armatus* vs. *B. splendens*).

The present worm differs from *S. jagennathae* in the shape of the scolex (triangular vs. pear shaped); in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 44); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 240 to 250) and in the host (*M. armatus* vs. *C. punctatus*)

The present parasite differs from *S. raoi* in the shape of the scolex (triangular vs. pear shaped); in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 46); in the neck (present vs. absent); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 65 to 70) and in the host (*M. armatus* vs. *C. punctatus*)

The present cestode differs from *S. sataraensis* in the shape of the scolex (triangular vs. pear shaped); in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 28 to 30); in the neck (present vs. absent) and in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 175 to 200).

The present tapeworm differs from *Senga sp.* in the shape of the scolex (triangular vs. pear shaped); in the number of hooks (57 to 59 vs. 53 to 131); in the number of testes (18 to 21 vs. 200 to 300) and in the host (*M. armatus* vs. *M. cuchia*).

The host Mastacembllus armatus is similar to most of the members of the genus except, S. ophicephaliana, having host Channa arga; S. pycnomera, having host Channa marulius; S. malayana, having host Channa striata; S. filiformis, and S. parva, having host Channa micropeltes; , S. visakhapatnamensis, having host Ophiocephalus having host Ophiocephalus punctatus; S. khami, marulius; S. gachuae, having host Channa gachua; S. chauhani having host Channa punctatus, S. ayodhensis having host Ophiocephalus marulius; S. tictoi, having host Puntius ticto; S. rupchandensis , having host Channa striatus S. shindei having host Ophiocephalus punctatus and S. oreochromisae having host Oreochomis mozambica.

Conflicts of interest: The authors stated that no conflicts of interest.

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