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TRINIBACULUM ALTIPARANAE SP. N., A NEW DACTYLOGYRID SPECIES (MONOGENEA) OF THE ASTYANAX ALTIPARANAE (OSTEICHTHYES: CHARACIDAE) IN THE PEIXE RIVER, SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL

TRINIBACULUM ALTIPARANAE SP. N. UNA NUEVA ESPECIE DE DACTYLOGYRIDO (MONOGENEA) DE ASTYANAX ALTIPARANAE (OSTEICHTHYES: CHARACIDAE) EN EL RÍO PEIXE, SUDESTE DE BRASIL

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Abstract

This article describes a new species — Trinibaculum altiparanae sp. n. — found in the gills of the Astyanax altiparanae Garutti & Britski, 2000. Fish were collected from the Peixe River in the municipality of Anhembi, State of São Paulo, Brazil, in March 2010. This paper describes the third species of the genus Trinibaculum. This new species is characterized by having an accessory structure that does not articulate with the male copulatory organ (MCO). This accessory structure has a basally bifid, well-curved distal end, tapered with a terminal flabellate piece. The male copulatory organ is a simple tube with less than one ring coiled counterclockwise; two similar curved dorsal bars; a ventral bar with concave ends and a posterior projection, a dorsal anchor with a truncated deep root and a slightly curved shaft, a ventral anchor with a curved shaft and differently shaped and sized hooks. Those features distinguish the new species from the two other species previously described in this genus: Trinibaculum braziliensis Kritsky, Thatcher & Kayton, 1980 was found parasitizing Brycon melanopterus (Cope, 1872) and Trinibaculum rotundus Karling, Lopes, Takemoto & Pavanelli, 2011 was found parasitizing Schizodon borellii (Boulenger, 1900).

key words: Ancyrocephalinae - Astyanax altiparanae - monogeneans - State of São Paulo - Trinibaculum altiparanae sp. n.

Resumen

Una nueva especie - *Trinibaculum altiparanae* sp. n. - se describe de las branquias de *Astyanax altiparanae* Garutti & Britski, 2000. Los peces fueron recolectados en el río Peixe en el municipio de Anhembi, São Paulo, Brasil, en marzo del 2010. Esta es la tercera especie del género *Trinibaculum* que se describe. La nueva especie se caracteriza por tener una pieza accesoria no articulada al órgano masculino copulador (COM), basalmente bífida y curva, el extremo distal cónico con una pieza terminal flabelada. El órgano copulador masculino es un tubo simple y envuelto con menos de una vuelta en dirección hacia la izquierda; barras dorsales similares y curvadas; una barra ventral con extremo cóncavo y con proyección posterior; raíz del áncora dorsal profunda y truncada y suavemente curvada; áncora ventral curvada y ganchos con diferente forma y tamaño, que difiere de las otras dos especies previamente descritas en este género: *Trinibaculum braziliensis* Kritsky, Thatcher & Kayton, 1980 que parasita a *Brycon melanopterus* (Cope, 1872) y *Trinibaculum rotundus* Karling, Lopes, Takemoto & Pavanelli, 2011 que parasita *Schizodon borellii* (Boulenger, 1900).

Palabras clave: Ancyrocephalinae - *Astyanax altiparanae* - Estado de São Paulo - monogeneos - *Trinibaculum altiparanae* sp. n.

INTRODUCTION

Monogeneans are the most speciose and diversified group of ectoparasites in the neotropical actinopterygian fish (Cepeda & Luque, 2010). In Brazil, the parasite fauna has been described for only 17.3% of the fish species, indicating that the total parasite biodiversity of fish in the region is grossly underestimated at present (Luque & Poulin, 2007). Thus, additional efforts at carrying out studies on the biodiversity of such parasites are relevant. The Peixe River (48°06'38"W; 22° 49'53.1"S) is a tributary on the left bank of the middle Tiete River Basin in the region of Barra Bonita, State of São Paulo, Brazil. The river originates in the municipality of Torre de Pedra, State of São Paulo, in the Basaltic Cuesta Botucatu Environmental Preservation Area and is a drainage basin corresponding to 584 km² running from North to South (Caramaschi, 1986). The Trinibaculum genus was originally described by Kritsky et al. (1980) and the type species (Trinibaculum braziliensis Kritsky, Thatcher & Kayton, 1980) was recorded parasitizing the gills of the Brycon melanopterus (Cope, 1872) in the Januacá Lake near the city of Manaus, State of Amazonas, Brazil. After that, the Trinibaculum rotundus (Karling, Lopes, Takemoto & Pavanelli, 2011) was described parasitizing the gill filaments of Schizodon borellii (Boulenger, 1900) from the upper Paraná River floodplain by Karling et al. (2011). According to Kritsky et al. (1980), this genus differs from all other Ancyrocephalinae because it possesses two widely separated simple dorsal bars, a dextroventral vagina, confluent intestinal crura, and intercecal gonads. Astyanax altiparanae (Garutti & Britski, 2000), a South American species with relevant importance, is a small-sized species (less than 20 cm in length) found in all environments, but more abundant in rivers and channel (Agostinho et al. 1997), is considered a forage, serving as food for largesized fish species, in addition to piscivorous mammals, reptiles, and birds that inhabit the floodplains of rivers in general (Hann et al. 1997).

This paper provides the description of a new species of *Trinibaculum*, a parasite found in the gills of the *A. altiparanae* in the State of São Paulo, Brazil.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In March 2010, eight specimens of *A. altiparanae* were collected for the study of monogeneans found in the Peixe River

(22°49'53.1"S; 48°06'38"W) in the municipality of Anhembi, State of São Paulo, Brazil. Fish were collected using nylon monofilament gill nets with mesh sizes of 3 to 14 cm at 3 different sites on the river: river mouth, pond and river channel. The nets were deployed at 1700 and removed at 0700 the following day for a total exposure time of 14 hours. Each fish was placed in a separate plastic bag and kept in coolers until necropsy. The gills were removed and the gill arches were separated, then placed in a vial and flooded with hot water (60° C to 70° C). The vial was vigorously shaken to detach parasites from the gills. After one hour, absolute alcohol was added to the vials in order to fixate the monogeneans, second procedures of Boeger & Vianna (2006).

Some specimens were stained with Gomori's trichrome and mounted with Canada balsam and others were mounted using Gray and Wess' medium (Humason, 1979) for the study of sclerotized structures. Differential interference contrast microscopy (Leica DMLB 5000, Leica Microsystems, Wetzlar, Germany) was used for the morphologic examination. Measurements were obtained using a computerized image analysis system (LAS, Leica Microsystems). Measurements (in micrometers) were expressed as the mean \pm standard deviation followed by the range and the number of specimens measured in parentheses. The illustrations were made with the aid of a camera lucida mounted on a Leica DMLS microscope. Type specimens were deposited at Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA), Manaus, State of Amazonas, Brazil and at Coleção Helmintológica do Instituto de Biociências de Botucatu (CHIBB), Botucatu, São Paulo, Brazil with numbers Holotype INPA 586, Paratypes INPA 587a, b; Paratypes CHIBB 052L, 053L and 054L.

RESULTS

Dactylogyridae Bychowsky, 1933 Ancyrocephalinae Bychowsky, 1937 *Trinibaculum* Kritsky, Thatcher & Kayton, 1980 *Trinibaculum altiparanae* sp. n. (Figs. 1A-I; 2A-D) Diagnosis (based on 12 whole-mounted worms, five stained with Gomori's trichrome and seven mounted using Gray and Wess' medium) - Body 340 ± 20.9 (309–397; n = 12) long, fusiform, robust; 86 ± 11.5 (70–94; n = 12) wide near gonad level. Smooth tegument. Cephalic lobes moderately developed; cephalic glands not observed. Eyes 4, posterior pair smaller; eye granules present near pharynx. Pharynx spherical, 17 ± 2.6 (13–24; n = 11) in diameter; short esophagus; intestinal ceca confluent posterior to testis. Short peduncle; oval haptor 39 ± 5.3 (32–50; n = 12) long, 60 ± 5.1 (53–63; n = 12) wide. Ventral anchor 37 \pm 4.9 (36–39; n =11) long, with superficial root more developed than deep root, curved shaft, short point, base 13 \pm 1.6 (11–18; n = 11) wide. Dorsal anchor 10 \pm 0.6 (8-12; n = 11) long, with elongatedsuperficial root and truncated deep root, slightly curved shaft and point; base 7 ± 0.9 (6–9; n = 11) wide. Ventral bar 31 ± 1.9 (29–33; n = 12) long, slightly V-shaped, with concave ends, striated, with posterior projection. Similar curved dorsal bars, 11 ± 1.1 (9–14; n = 18) long. Hooks different in shape and size, pair 3, 4 and 7 equal, with curved shaft and point, dilated shank, FH loop about \(^1\)4 of shank length; pairs 1, 2, 5, and 6 equal, with tapered shaft and point, dilated shank, FH loop about 3/4 shank length; hook pairs 3, 4 and $7-17 \pm 2.2$ (13–20; n = 18) long, pairs 1, 2, 5, and 6–10 \pm 1.5 (8–11; n = 18). Gonads intercecal, overlapping. Testis postgermarian, subspherical 13 ± 2.1 (10–15; n = 4) in diameter. Seminal vesicle a simple dilation of vas deferens; prostatic reservoir saccate. The male copulatory organ is a simple tube, curved with less than one ring, counterclockwise, 68 ± 10.6 (51-75; n = 9) long. Accessory piece 19 ± 3.1 (16-22; n = 9) long, non-articulated to MCO, bifid basally, with different ends, well curved, distal end tapered with terminal flabellate piece. Germarium sub-ovate $42 \pm 6.9 (35-48; n = 4)$ long, 20 ± 2.7 (16–27; n = 4) wide, vagina dextroventral, heavily sclerotized, handcuffshape. Vitellaria dense, random in trunk, but absent in the regions of the reproductive organs. Type host - Astyanax altiparanae Garutti and Britski, 2000 (Characiformes: Characidae). Site of infestation - Gills.

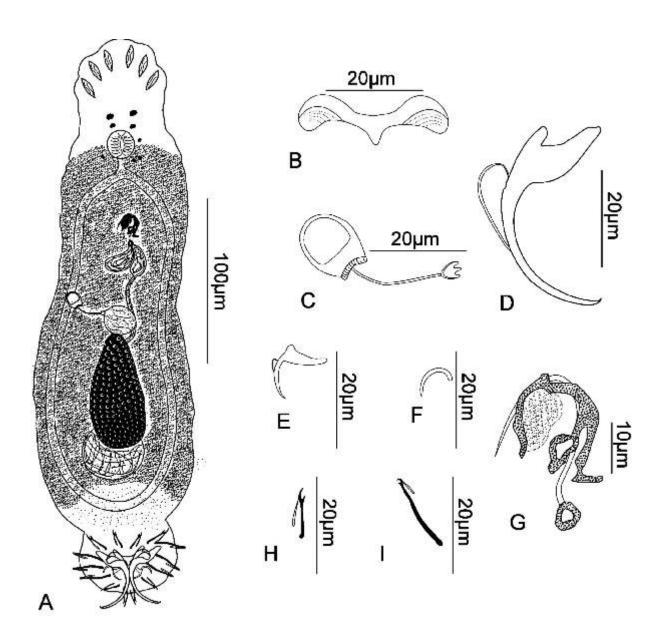


Figure. 1. *Trinibaculum altiparanae* sp. n. (A) Whole worm, ventral view. (B) Ventral bar. (C) Vagina. (D) Ventral anchor. (E) Dorsal anchor. (F) Dorsal bar. (G) Male copulatory complex: MCO and accessory piece. (H) Hook pair 1. (I) Hook pair 3.

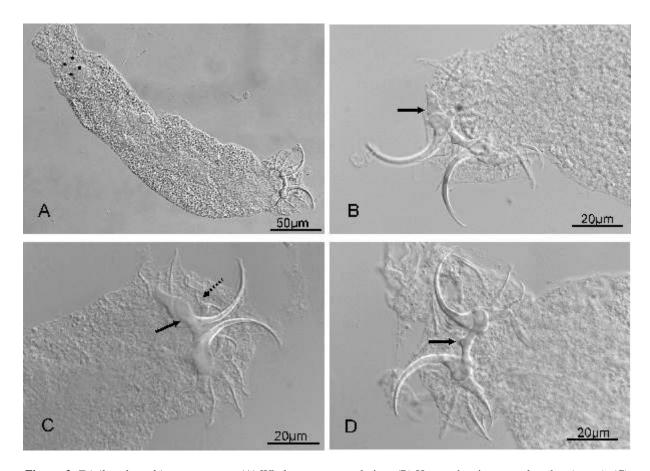


Figure. 2. *Trinibaculum altiparanae* sp. n. (A) Whole worm, ventral view. (B) Haptor showing ventral anchor (arrow). (C) Haptor showing striations on ventral bar (arrow) and dorsal anchor and bar (dotted arrow). (D) Haptor showing posterior projection in ventral bar (arrow).

Type locality - Peixe River (22°49'53.1"S; 48°06'38"W), municipality of Anhembi, São Paulo State, Brazil.

Prevalence: 50%

Mean Intensity: 2.4 ± 0.3

Specimens deposited - Holotype INPA 586, Paratypes INPA 587a, b; Paratypes CHIBB 052L, 053L and 054L.

Etymology - The specific designation *altiparanae* refers to the specific name of the type-host.

Taxonomic discussion - *Trinibaculum* altiparanae sp. n. differs from *T. braziliensis* in possessing the accessory piece non-articulated to MCO, bifid basally, well curved, distal end tapered with terminal flabellate piece (broadly articulated to proximal portion of male copulatory organ in *T. braziliensis*), ventral bar with posterior projection (without posterior

projections in T. braziliensis), dorsal anchor with truncated deep root and slightly curved shaft (dorsal anchor with spine-shaped deep root and short straight shaft in *T. braziliensis*), ventral anchor with curved shaft (ventral anchor with straight shaft in *T. braziliensis*), hooks differents in shape and size (equal in *T. braziliensis*), shape of body fusiform (subtriangular in T. braziliensis) and gonads overlapping (tandem in *T. braziliensis*). The new species differs from *T.* rotundus in possessing the vagina dextroventral, heavily sclerotized, handcuff-shape (vagina dextrolateral slightly sclerotized ending at level of seminal receptacle in T. rotundus), male copulatory organ a simple tube, coiled with less than one ring, counterclockwise (copulatory organ coiled with 1.5 clockwise rings in T. rotundus), body fusiform and robust (body diskshape with absence of haptor peduncle in T.

rotundus), peduncle present (absent in *T. rotundus*), ventral bar with posterior projections (without in *T. rotundus*) and hooks differents in shape and size (equal in *T. rotundus*).

The new species presented here is allocated to Trinibaculum based on the main characters of the genus presented by Kritsky et al. (1980) and Boeger & Vianna (2006), i. e., gonads tandem, vagina dextro-ventral, ventral bar slightly Vshaped and dorsal bar double; anterior, posterior projections absent. However, the Trinibaculum altiparanae sp. n. presents three characteristics different of this genus: (i) an accessory piece not directly articulated to the MCO (also observed in the Trinibaculum rotundus); (ii) a ventral bar with posterior projection; and (iii) hooks thet are different in shape and size - which can be perfectly justified because Kritsky et al. (1980) relied on the observation of a single species that was being described then, the Trinibaculum braziliensis to make the diagnosis of the genus.

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