

## Larvae of *Eustrongylides* sp. and *Contracaecum* sp., nematodes with zoonotic potential in carnivorous fish from eastern Amazonia, northern Brazil.

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Several species of freshwater fish be host of endohelminths with zoonotic potential, mainly fish with piscivorous diet, which are usually intermediate hosts for these endoparasites. The present study was to investigate the occurrence of nematode species with zoonotic potential in carnivorous fish from the lower Jari River, northern Brazil. In January 2015, 30 fishes such as *Serrasalmus spilopleura* (N=5), *Hoplias malabaricus* (N=3), *Cichla monoculus* (N=7), *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* (N=5), *Serrasalmus rhombeus* (N=6) e *Pygocentrus nattereri* (N=4) were caught with a waiting net in the lower Jari River (1°7'39.48" S; 51°59'43.94" W), for parasitological analysis. After caught, each fish was necropsied the internal organs and viscera were examined using usual methods for study of endoparasites. The collected nematodes were fixed in 5% formalin heated at 65° C, for 24 hours, kept in 70% alcohol, and then diaphanized in faia creosote for identification. For each nematode taxa, the prevalence (P), mean intensity (MI), mean abundance (MA) and total number of parasite species (TNP) were determined. A total of 186 nematodes were collected of these host fishes. In *S. spilopleura*, larvae of *Contracaecum* sp. were found in intestine (P = 80,0%; MI = 2.5, MA = 2.0, TNP = 10) and larvae of *Eustrongylides* sp. in the musculature (P = 20.0%, MI = 1.0, MA = 0.2, TNP = 1); *H. malabaricus* larvae of *Contracaecum* sp. occurred in mesentery (P = 100%, MI = 5.0, MA = 5.0, TNP = 15) and larvae of *Eustrongylides* sp. in musculature (P = 100%, MI = 8.0, MA = 8.0, TNP = 24). In *C. monoculus*, larvae *Contracaecum* sp. were found in mesentery (P = 85.7, MI = 6.0, MA = 5.1 and TNP = 36) and *Eustrongylides* sp. in musculature (P = 42.8%, MI = 0.4, MA = 1.0, TNP = 3). In *H. unitaeniatus* *Contracaecum* sp. was found in mesentery (P = 40.0%, MI = 1.0, MA = 0.4, TNP = 2) and *Eustrongylides* sp. in musculature (P = 100%, MI = 7.6, MA = 7.6, TNP = 38) and in *S. rhombeus* *Contracaecum* sp. in mesentery (P = 83.3%, MI = 9.8, MA = 2.3, TNP = 49) and *Eustrongylides* sp. in musculature (P = 16.7%, MI = 0.2, MA = 0.17, TNP = 1). *Pygocentrus nattereri* was infected by *Contracaecum* sp. larvae in mesentery (P = 100%, MI = 3.0, MA = 3.0, TNP = 12). In general, *Contracaecum* sp. presented the highest levels of infection in 80.0% (N = 24) of the fish and highest abundance, with 120 specimens collected. Thus, rates of parasitic infection were high for *Contracaecum* sp. and moderate to *Eustrongylides* sp. These results indicate a possible risk of human infection, since of such fish species are very used in feeding of Amazonian riverine populations, and such nematodes have zoonotic potential. This is the first record of these nematodes for *S. rhombeus* as well as of *Eustrongylides* sp. for *C. monoculus*.