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A New Species of *Choricotyle* (Monogenoidea: Diclidophoridae) from *Ctenosciaena gracilicirrhus* (Teleostei: Sciaenidae), a Marine Fish Occurring in the Littoral Zone from the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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ABSTRACT: A new species of *Choricotyle* parasitizing the marine fish *Ctenosciaena gracilicirrhus* (Teleostei: Sciaenidae) from Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (23°00′24″S; 44°19′05″W) is proposed. *Choricotyle rohdei* n.sp. differs from all other species of the genus mainly by the number of genital spines, which varies from 28 to 30, whereas others present 7 to 12 spines.

KEY WORDS: Choricotyle rohdei, Diclidophoridae, Monogenoidea, fish parasites, Ctenosciaena gracilicirrhus, Sciaenidae, Brazil.

Fishes of Sciaenidae range in shallow waters, usually over sandy mud bottoms and are among the most economically valued fish groups in coastal and estuarine waters. The family is represented in Brazil by 54 marine species (Souza et al., 2008). *Ctenosciaena gracilicirrhus* (Metzelaar) has been reported in the western Atlantic Ocean, ranging from coastal waters of Nicaragua to the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic coasts of South America to southern Brazil. It feeds mainly on shrimps and is an important food fish (Froese and Pauly, 2010).

Before the current study, 2 helminths had been reported from *C. gracilicirrhus:* the trypanorhynch cestodes *Heteronybelinia annakohnae* Pereira and Boeger, 2005 and *Progillotia dollfusi* Carvajal and Rego, 1983 (Pereira and Boeger, 2005). During a survey on fish parasites from Angra dos Reis, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a new species of Monogenoidea belonging to *Choricotyle* van Beneden and Hesse, 1863 was found parasitizing *C. gracilicirrhus* and is described herein.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

From August 2007 to February 2009, 203 specimens of *C. gracilicirrhus* were examined. Fish were obtained from Angra dos Reis, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The gill arches were separated and the monogenoideans collected were fixed in 5% formaldehyde, with or without light cover-glass pressure. Specimens were stained with Langeron's alcoholic acid carmine, deydrated in an ethanol series, cleared in beechwood creosote, and permanently mounted in Canada balsam. The specimens were observed

with a Zeiss Axioskop 2 Plus microscope, figures were drawn with the aid of a drawing tube, and digital images were captured with a SONY MPEGMovie EX DSC-S75 digital camera.

Measurements are presented in micrometers as range values followed by the mean value, standard deviation, and number of measurements in parentheses. Prevalence, mean intensity, and range of infection were calculated according to Bush et al. (1997). Specimens studied were deposited in the Helminthological Collection of the "Instituto Oswaldo Cruz" (CHIOC) in Brazil. Terminology of clamp sclerites follows Euzet and Suriano (1975).

Choricotyle rohdei n.sp. (Figs. 1–6)

Description (on the basis of 32 stained and mounted specimens)

Body elongated, set off from haptor, 1,040–3,700 (2,120 \pm 797.6; n=21) long \times 170–860 (534 \pm 186.9; n=24) maximum width and 160–760 (478 \pm 159.1; n=23) wide at ovarian level. Two anterior suckers, 50–80 (66 \pm 8.6; n=34) long \times 52–92 (76 \pm 8.7; n=34) wide, posterior to oral aperture. Mouth subterminal, ventral. Pharynx ovoid, 87–137 (112 \pm 16.4; n=14) long by 65–105 (85 \pm 11.9; n=14) wide, lying behind the suckers. Esophagus present, bifurcating at level of genital atrium. Intestinal ceca confluent, uniting posteriorly, penetrating haptor, but not entering on peduncles.

Haptor 300–760 (485 \pm 157.8; n = 13) long, with 8 long peduncles, 360–610 (471 \pm 68.3; n = 23) long, each with one clamp. Clamps similar in size, measuring 100–175 (146 \pm 17.5; n = 95) long by 110–230 (158 \pm 21; n = 95) wide, with an accessory sucker and an oval, small accessory sclerite in axial quadrant of the clamp, measuring 30–65 (49 \pm 10.6; n

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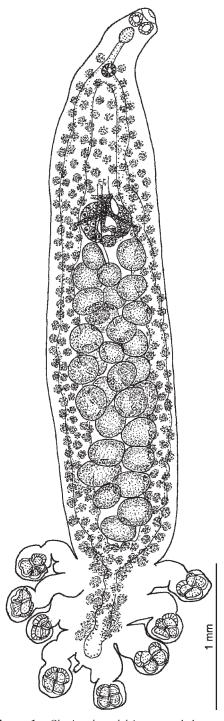


Figure 1. Choricotyle rohdei n.sp., whole mount, ventral view, holotype.

= 30) long. Ma, the anterior portion of anterior jaw medial sclerite, is curved ventrally, reaching curvature of As, the axial sclerite of anterior jaw. Pl1 and Pl2 are sclerites bordering lateral portion of posterior jaw and Ps1 and Ps2 are sclerites bordering axial portion of the posterior jaw. Pl1 and Ps1 are curved, with anterior extremity thin. Pl2 and Ps2 sclerites present recurved points and grooves reaching O sclerite, the median sclerite of posterior jaw. O sclerite presents posterior extremity bifurcated, reaching Pl2 and Ps2. Terminal lappet 70–110 (88 \pm 14.5; n = 6) long at posterior extremity, between fourth and fifth clamp pairs, presenting 2 pairs of hooks.

Genital atrium spherical, midventral 50–70 (60 \pm 5.8; n = 18) long \times 45–77 (63.6 \pm 9.04; n = 18) wide, with 28 to 30 spines disposed in a single concentric row around genital atrium. Spines 16–23 (19.6 \pm 1.88; n = 78) long, pointed toward the opening.

Testes 95–280 (165 \pm 47.8; n = 48) \times x 100–235 (161 \pm 36.4; n = 48), intercecal, postovarian, varying from 21 to 36 (26 \pm 4.73; n = 15) in number, mostly posterior to midbody.

Ovary inverted U shaped; oviduct receives duct from oval seminal receptacle. Ootype and Mehlis' gland located in posterior margin of ovary. Transverse vitelline ducts join at anterior margin of ovary forming vitelline reservoir that reaches the oviduct. Vitelline follicles coextensive with intestinal ceca, occupying most part of body and extending into haptor. Uterus running anteriorly to genital atrium. Vagina absent. One egg with 2 polar filaments was observed in 1 specimen, measuring 125×65 without the filaments.

Taxonomic summary

Type host: Ctenosciaena gracilicirrhus (Metzelaar) (Sciaenidae), common named "cangauá".

Type locality: Angra dos Reis, State of Rio de Janeiro, 23°00′24″S; 44°19′05″W.

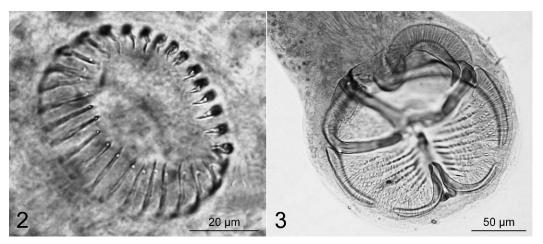
Site of infection: Gill lamellae.

Prevalence: 26.1% (53 infected of 203 examined).

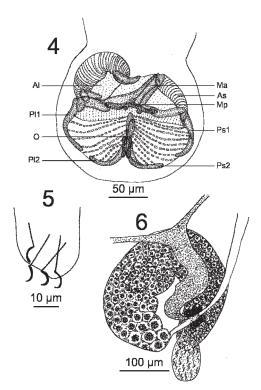
Mean intensity of infection: 1-19 (1.92 \pm 2.54).

Specimens deposited: Holotype CHIOC no. 37473a; 31 paratypes CHIOC no. 37473b; 37474a, b; 37475; 37476a, b; 37477a, b; 37478; 37479a, b; 37480; 37481; 37482; 37483a, b, c; 37484a, b; 37485; 37486; 37487; 37488a, b; 37489a, b, c; 37490a, b, c; 37491.

Etymology: The specific name is given for Professor Klaus Rohde in recognition of his scientific contribution to the knowledge of monogenoids.



Figures 2, 3. Choricotyle rohdei n.sp. 2. Genital atrium presenting 30 spines. 3. Detail of a clamp.



Figures 4–6. Choricotyle rohdei n.sp. **4.** Clamp. **5.** Terminal lappet with two pairs of hooks. **6.** Detail of female reproductive system. (Ma, anterior portion of anterior jaw medial sclerite; As, axial sclerite of anterior jaw; Pl, sclerites bordering lateral portion of posterior jaw; Ps, sclerites bordering axial portion of the posterior jaw; O, median sclerite of posterior jaw.)

Remarks

The new species has been assigned to *Choricotyle* as defined by Yamaguti (1963) on the basis of the presence of 4 pairs of pedunculated clamps provided with a typical sucker in expanded inner dorsal quadrant, genital atrium with spines arranged in a single row, coextensive vitellaria and intestinal ceca, and absence of vagina.

Mamaev (1976) listed 20 species in *Choricotyle* and considered 5 of these as species inquirenda. Oliva (1987) considered only 10 species belonging to *Choricotyle*, considering that some species were transferred to other diclidophoridean genera. Luque et al. (1993) described 2 new species of *Choricotyle* and revalidated another one, considering a total of 19 valid species. Lamothe-Argumedo et al. (1998) described one more species from Mexico and considered *Choricotyle exilis* Crane, 1972 as a valid species, bringing the total number of species in the genus to 21. Recently, Oliva et al. (2009) erected 2 new species in the genus, and considered there to be only 15 valid species in the genus. However, they did not specify which species they considered invalid.

To date, the species considered valid by the above authors combined are: Choricotyle anisotremi Oliva, 1987, Choricotyle aspinachorda Hargis, 1955, Choricotyle australiensis Roubal, Armitage and Rohde, 1983, Choricotyle brasiliensis Luque, Amato and Takemoto, 1993, Choricotyle caudalis (Koratha, 1955), Choricotyle caudolatili (Meserve, 1938), Choricotyle chrysophryi van Beneden and Hesse, 1863 (type species), Choricotyle crassicaudata Mamaev and Aleshkina, 1984, Choricotyle cynoscioni (Mac Callum, 1917), Choricotyle elongata

(Goto, 1894), *C. exilis* Crane, 1972, *Choricotyle hysteroncha* (Fujii, 1944), *Choricotyle isaciensis* Oliva, González, Ruz and Luque, 2009, *Choricotyle labracis* (Cerfontaine, 1895), *Choricotyle leonilavazquezae* Lamothe-Argumedo, Aranda-Cruz, and Perez-Ponce de Leon, 1998, *Choricotyle multitesticulae* (Chauhan, 1945), *Choricotyle oregonensis* McCauley and Smoker, 1969, *Choricotyle orthopristis* Luque, Amato, and Takemoto, 1993, *Choricotyle pellonae* Kritsky and Bilqees, 1973, *Choricotyle polynemi* Mamaev, 1972, *Choricotyle scapularis* Oliva, González, Ruz, and Luque, 2009, *Choricotyle simplex* Mamaev, 1976, and *Choricotyle sonorensis* Caballero and Bravo–Hollis, 1962.

The main feature that differentiates the new species from others of the genus is the number of genital spines, which varies from 28 to 30 in *Choricotyle rohdei* n.sp., whereas all other nominal species have 7 to 12 spines.

The oval accessory sclerite has been observed in *C. aspinachorda* by Hargis (1955), *C. anisotremi* by Oliva (1987), and *C. isaciensis* by Oliva et al. (2009). According to Oliva (1987), this oval sclerite was also described in *Choricotyle louisianensis* by Hargis (1955), and by Tantalean (1974) in *Choricotyle peruensis* and *Choricotyle chimbotensis*, but these species are now considered to belong to *Hargicotyle* Mamaev, 1972.

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