

First Report of *Lappetascaris lutjani* Rasheed, 1965 (Nematoda, Ascaridoidea, Anisakidae) Parasitizing *Trachipterus arawatae* (Pisces, Lampridiformes) on the Atlantic Coast of Brazil

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New host and geographical records are reported for the nematode Lappetascaris lutjani Rasheed, 1965, parasitizing the marine fish Trachipterus arawatae Clark, 1881 in Brazilian waters. Morphometric data and illustrations of the parasites are included.

Key words: Nematoda - *Lappetascaris lutjani* - Pisces - *Trachipterus arawatae* - Brazil

The genus *Lappetascaris* was erected by Rasheed (1965), to contain the anisakid nematode *L. lutjani*, recovered from the intestine of the marine fishes *Lutjanus* sp. [Lutjanidae] and *Tenualosa ilisha* (Hamilton, 1822) (= *Hilsa ilisha*) [Clupeidae], captured on the Karachi Coast, Pakistan. Additionally, the species was reported in India parasitizing *Kurtus indicus* Bloch, 1786 [Kurtidae] (De et al. 1978), *Ilisha feligera* (Valenciennes, 1847) [Clupeidae] (Soota & Dey-Sarkar 1980), and *Pellona ditchela* Valenciennes, 1847 [Clupeidae] (De 1990).

The present paper reports a new host and a new locality for *L. lutjani*.

Morphometric data are based on four adult specimens, two males and two females. Processing of nematodes for study was in accordance with Pinto et al. (2001). Measurements are in millimeters (mm), unless otherwise indicated. Figures were made with the aid of a drawing tube connected to an Olympus microscope and the photomicrograph with a Axiophot Differential Interference Contrast (DIC) system.

Lappetascaris lutjani Rasheed, 1965 (Figs 1-4)

Body slender, brownish yellow in color, and attenuated at the anterior extremity. Cuticle thick. Head heavily cuticularized appearing as a mass of small cuticular thickenings (Fig. 4) rather than a three-lipped structure (Fig. 1). Lateral alae 0.14 wide.

Males: body 5.4-5.5 cm long, 0.26-0.37 wide. Nerve ring and excretory pore 0.42-0.49 and 0.49-0.56 from anterior end, respectively. Esophagus 6.79-8.40 long. Intestinal caecum and esophageal appendix, 6.37-6.44 and 3.01-3.94 long, respectively. Ventriculus 0.10-0.12 long. Spicules 3.92-4.00 long. Sixteen to seventeen pairs of caudal papillae. Cloacal aperture 0.56-0.63 from posterior extremity.

Females: body 7.5-8.5 cm long, 0.68-0.84 wide. Nerve ring and excretory pore 0.49 and 0.63 from anterior end, respec-

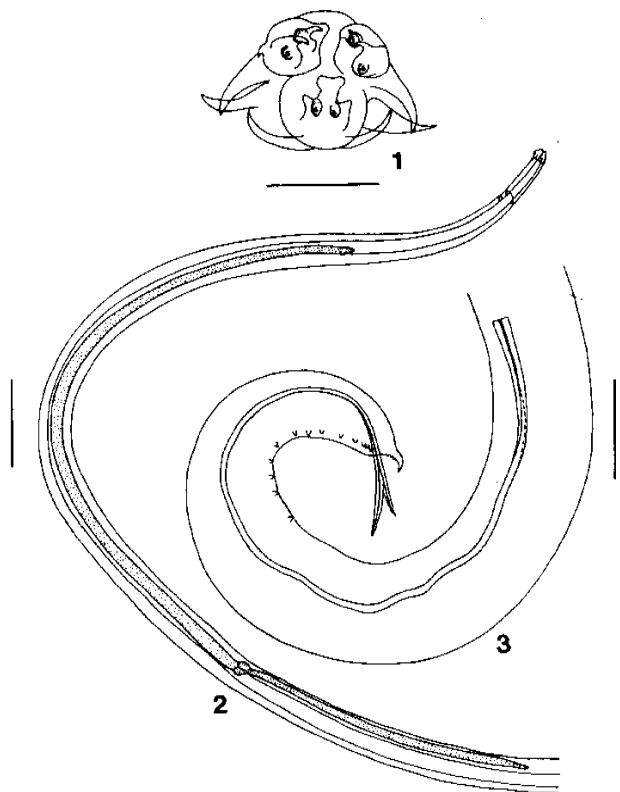
tively. Esophagus 8.47 long. Intestinal caecum and esophageal appendix, 6.58 and 3.08-4.20 long, respectively. Ventriculus 0.12 long. Vulvar aperture in the middle region of body. Rectum 0.36-0.56 long. Anus 0.58-0.77 from posterior end.

Taxonomic summary

Host: *Trachipterus arawatae* Clark, 1881, Lampridiformes, Trachipteridae; common names: dealfish, "peixe-fita" - New host record

Voucher host deposited: Museu Oceanográfico do Vale do Itajaí (MOVI) no.16160, female, 1,680 mm long, SL (Standard length)

Site of infection: stomach



Lappetascaris lutjani Rasheed, 1965. Fig. 1: head of female, en face view, showing the three well defined lips. Bar = 0.07 mm. Fig. 2: anterior of male, lateral view. Bar = 0.5 mm. Fig. 3: posterior of male, lateral view. Bar = 0.2 mm

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Lappetascaris lutjani Rasheed, 1965. Fig. 4: anterior extremity of male, lateral view, showing the head with cuticular thickenings. Bar = 0.1 mm

Locality: Atlantic Coast (29°22'S, 47°38'W, 50 m depth), State of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil – New locality record
 Specimens deposited: Helminthological Collection of the Oswaldo Cruz Institute (CHIOC) no. 34435 (wet material) and MOVI no. 16663 (wet material).

According to Mincarone et al. (2000), the host species *T. arawatae* has been recorded in Africa, Australia, New

Zealand, Réunion Island and Atlantic coast of South America.

The present results add new data to previous surveys of Brazilian fish nematodes (Vicente et al. 1985, Vicente & Pinto 1999).

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