



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Studies on Report of Cestode *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 Parasitizing Avian Host *Apus affinis*

Ramesh Mohanrao Dhondge¹, Sanjay Shamrao Nanware^{2*} and Dhanraj Balbhim Bhure^{2*}

¹Dept. of Zoology, Shri Sant Gadge Maharaj Mahavidyalaya, Loha, Dist. Nanded (M.S.)

²Dept. of Zoology (UG & PG), Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya, Nanded (M.S.)

*Corresponding author Email: drmdhondge@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The present investigation deals with record of Cestode parasite *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 collected from intestine of accidental dead avian host *Apus affinis* from Loha, District Nanded (M.S.) India in December, 2018. The present species is comes closer to *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 in having general topography of organs viz. Scolex triangular, rostellum is armed with double crown of rostellar hooks, suckers are four in numbers, mature proglottids broader than long, Cirrus pouch is oval to rounded, vagina arise from posterior to cirrus pouch, Ovary bilobed, vitelline gland medium, compact; but same differs due to rostellar hooks 30-32 in numbers, testes 36 in numbers and some morphometric measurement hence redescribed as *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011.

Key words: *Apus affinis*, Loha, District Nanded, *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011, Report

Received: 4th Jan. 2020, Revised: 5th Feb. 2020, Accepted: 13th Feb. 2020

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How to cite this article:

Dhondge R.M., Nanware S.S. and Bhure D.B. (2020): Studies on Report of Cestode *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 Parasitizing Avian Host *Apus affinis*. *Annals of Natural Sciences*, Vol. 6[1]: March, 2020: 13-15.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *megacirrus* was erected by Beck, 1951, with its type species *M. megapodii* reported from *megapodius laperouse* from Palau Isl. Later on Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 added *Megacirrus ovariana* from *Apus affinis*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Three cestode parasites were collected from the intestine accidental dead avian host *Apus affinis* from Loha, District Nanded (M.S.) India in December, 2018. These parasites are preserved in hot 4% formaline, passed through various alcoholic grades, stained with Haematoxyline, cleared in xylene and mounted in D.P.X., drawing are made with the aid of camera lucida. All measurements are recorded in millimeters.

RESULT

Scolex is medium, distinctly marked off from body, triangular, narrow anteriorly and broad posteriorly and measures 0.665 x 0.521 in length and breadth. Rostellum is medium, oval, lies at anterior portion of scolex, armed with double crown of rostellar hooks and measures 0.010 x 0.040 in size. Rostellar hooks 30-32 in numbers and measures 0.102 x 0.002 in size. Suckers are four in numbers, oval to round in shape, muscular, arranged in two groups and measures 0.224 x 0.232 in length and breadth. Neck long and measures 0.511 x 0.298 in size. Mature segments are broader than long, and measures 0.321 x 1.624

in length and breadth. Testes are medium, oval to rounded, 36 in numbers and measures 0.054 in diameter. Cirrus pouch is oval, sub marginal and measures 0.134 x 0.068 in size. Cirrus is small, curved tube, lies within the cirrus pouch and measures 0.119 x 0.004 in length and breadth. Genital pore is small, oval to rounded, sub marginally and measures 0.024 in diameter. Vagina is long tube, posterior to cirrus pouch, forms receptaculum seminis and measures 0.58 x 0.006 in size. Ootype is compact and measures 0.033 in diameter. Ovary is bilobed, starts from ootype, situated at the anterior side of the segment and measures 0.721 x 0.084 in length and breadth. Vitelline gland is medium, compact. Longitudinal excretory canals are placed on either side of the segment.

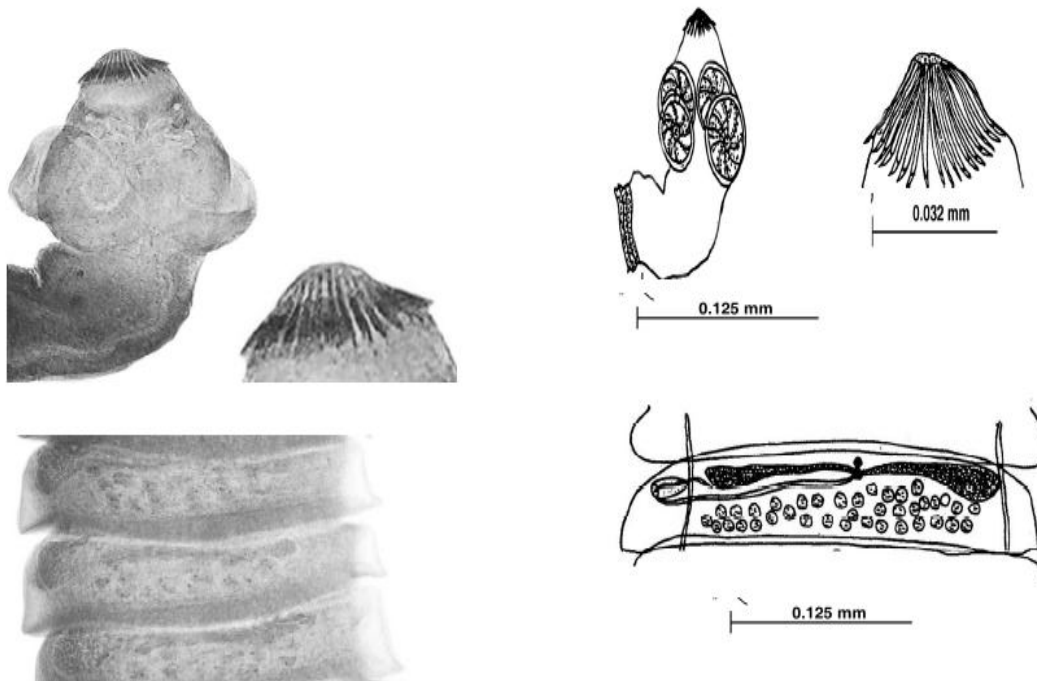


Fig.1. Microphotoplate of *Megacirrus ovariana*²

Fig.2. Camera Lucida diagram of *Megacirrus ovariana*²

DISCUSSION

The genus *Megacirrus* was erected by Beck, 1951 with its type species *M. megapodii* reported from *megapodius laperouse* from Palu Isl.

Present species is comes closer to *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011 having general topography of organs viz. Scolex triangular, rostellum is armed with double crown of rostellar hooks, suckers are four in numbers, mature proglottids broader than long, Cirrus pouch is oval to rounded, vagina arise from posterior to cirrus pouch, Ovary bilobed, vitelline gland medium, compact; but same differs due to number of rostellar hooks (30-32 vs 34-36), number of testes (36 vs 30-32) and some morphometric measurement. As the characters are minor, hence redescribed as *Megacirrus ovariana* Dhondge *et al.*, 2011.

TAXONOMIC SUMMARY:

Type species	:	<i>Megacirrus ovariana</i> Dhondge <i>et al.</i> , 2011
Host	:	<i>Apus affinis</i>
Habitat	:	Intestine
Locality	:	Loha, District- Nanded (M.S.), India
Period of collection	:	December 2018
No. of Specimen	:	03

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors are indebted to Principal, Yeshwant Mahavidyalaya Nanded for their kind help, inspiration and providing necessary laboratory facilities.

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