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PARASITIC PROTOZOA OF SALMO TRUTTA M. FARIO FROM THE RIVER PORMA (DUERO BASIN, NW. SPAIN)

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Between November 1981 and October 1982, we examined 143 specimens of Salmo trutta m. fario caught in three stretches of the River Porma: Palazuelo, San Vicente and Castrillo, belonging to the natural regions of mountain, transition and transition-central boundary, respectively.

The following Protozoa were found (prevalence and mean intensity - semiquantitatively evaluated - in brackets). Hexamita sp. (2.09%;+). In the intestine of trouts caught in march in Castrillo.

Eimeria truttae (11.18%; +). Mature or immature oocysts in the intestinal mucosa, cloaca and gall bladder of trouts caught in the three stretches studied. Maximum prevalence in summer.

Pleistophora sp. (1.39%; +). Spores in the swim bladder, gall bladder, intestine and gills of trouts caught in May, in the mountain stretch.

Myxidium sp. (3.49%;++). Spores and trophozoites in the gall bladder of trouts caught in the two upper stretches. No clear seasonal variations.

Chloromyxum truttae (4.19%; +). Spores and trophozoites in the gall bladder of trouts caught in three stretches studied in February and March.

Myxobolus neurobius? (45.45%; +). Spores, free or in sporoblasts, in the spinal cord and brain of trouts from the three stretches studied. The infection levels increase in late autumn-early winter and early spring.

Myxobolus sp. (18.18%; +). Spores in the kidney, spleen, liver, gall bladder, and ureter, less frequently in other organs of trouts caught in the three stretches studied. A rise in infection levels was observed in spring.

Myxobilatus sp. (6.29%;+). Spores in the liver, spinal cord, gall bladder, spleen and kidney of trouts caught in the two lower stretches of the river in spring-early summer and early autumn.

Sphaerospora sp. (0.69%; ++). Spores in the kidney of a single trout from the mountain stretch.

Ichthyophthirius multifiliis (16.78%; +). Juvenile and mature forms on fins, skin and gills of trouts caught in the three stretches, from May to December.

Tripartiella sp. (4.89%; +). On the skin and gills of trouts caught in the two lower stretches, in March and in summer and autumn.

Sessilia gen.sp. (0.69%; ++). On the skin of a single trout from San Vicente.

Dermocystidium sp. (18.88%; +++). Cysts with spores on the gills of trouts from the two lower stretches of the river. Maximum prevalence in February.

These results contrast with those observed for Cyprinids from rivers of the same basin, parasitized by more protozoan species and with clearly higher infection levels. The peculiarities of the ecology and etiology of the fish studied may contribute to this difference.