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Résumés - Abstracts
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FIN FOLD FORMULA IN THE GENUS ECHINOSTOMA (TREMATODA: ECHINOSTOMATIDAE)

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Tail-fin fold - Echinostoma - formula

Echinostome cercariae with 31, 37, 43, 47 and 51 collar spines obtained from experimentally and naturally infected planorbid, limnaeid, physid and viviparid snails, collected in 25 different geographical regions in Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, including Germany. The type locality for E. revolutum, were examined with respect to the number and arrangement of fin folds on the tail surface.

The results showed that all of the echinostome cercariae examined have a long cylindrical tail which ends with a slender finger-like tip. The tail surface bears seven independent fin folds arranged in three pairs: proximal dorsal-ventral, distal dorsal-ventral and ventro-lateral pair. A single small papilla-like fold is found on the ventral surface of the tail. This fold was illustrated in our previously published papers but at that time was incorrectly considered to be a prolonged portion of the ventral fold of the distal dorsal-ventral pair.

Cercaria E. revolutum sensu Beaver (1937), Lutz (1924), Suppoxor (1959) and Moravec et al. (1974); C. spinifera, C. trivolis, C. spinicaudata, C. E. topognosia, C. E. parasum, C. E. mayeri, and other cercariae were found incorrectly diagnosed with incorrectly described fin folds as well. Cercaria nudicaudata, C. deficiatimata and C. E. revolutum sensu Johnson (1920) do not have fin folds and belong to the genus Schinoparyphium.

It is suggested that the genus Echinostoma has a common fin fold formula and cercariae in this genus can not be distinguished by the number and arrangement of their fin folds as it has previously been common practice to do. The exact function of the fin folds is unknown. Most probably four of them - the large membranes of the dorso-ventral proximal and distal pair are connected with the swimming ability. Three of them - the small ventro-lateral and the papilla-like folds are suggested to be sensory in function.

VARIATIONS IN MORPHOLOGY AND STRUCTURE OF THE DICLIDOPHOROIDEA (MONogenea)

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Monogenea, Diclidophoridea, morphology

The Diclidophoroidea as defined by Yamaguti (1963) represents a major taxonomic unit of the Monogenea. Species of the superfamily are characterised by a powerful haptor variable in shape and position, provided with several suckers and clamps. Other structures are also variable. Several representatives of the superfamily are encountered in the rich and diverse monogenean fauna of fishes of the Arabian Gulf region. Species belonging to the genera Choanocotyle, Hexostoma, Masoecotyle, Neohexostoma, Umphybotrus, Pseudochoanocotyle, Vallisneria and others are found. These provide material to demonstrate the diversities of the haptors and their components as well as other structures. Using light and scanning electron microscopy these variations are studied and demonstrated.