

Dept. of Parasitology,
Fac. of Medicine, Assiut Univ.
Head of Dept. Prof. Dr. S. Hafez.

ANOMOTAENIA ASSUTI sp. Nov. (CESTODE) INFECTING
THE DOMESTIC SPARROW, PASSER DOMESTICUS
IN ASSIUT CITY, A.R. EGYPT.

(With One Table & One Fig.)

By

A.M. MANDOUR; N.A.M. MAZEN*
and L.A.N. OMRAN

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**أنوموتينيا أسيوطى نوع جديد من الديدان
الشريطية يصيب العصفور المنزلى
فى مدينة أسيوط**

أحمد مندور ، نوال مازن
ليلى عمران

تم فحص ٢٥٠ عصفور منزلى للإصابة بالديدان الشريطية ولقد وجد الباحثون نوعاً جديداً من هذه الديدان وتم وصفه وتصنيفه واقتراح تسميته أنوموتينيا أسيوطى نسبة الى وجوده فى مدينة أسيوط .

*: Dept. of Zoology, Fac. of Science, Assiut Univ.

SUMMARY

A new species *Anomotaenia assuti* sp. nov. (Cestode) belonging to the family Dilepididae Railliet and HENRY, 1909 has been recovered. In Assiut City from the domestic sparrow *Passer domesticus*. The specific characters mentioned in the text.

Keywords: *Anomotaenia assuti*, infection, domestic sparrow, Assiut City, Egypt.

INTRODUCTION

The helminth parasites of passerine birds have drawn attention of many workers all over the world. In Assiut locality. EL-NAFFAR et al. (1976) described two new species of nematodes infecting the domestic sparrow. OMRAN et al. (1976) discovered a new species of trematode, *Gigantobilharzia aegypti* in the mesenteric veins of the domestic sparrow inhabiting Assiut city. MAZEN (1987) described a cestodes *Biuterinoides aegypti* in the passerine birds of Assiut. For this reason a survey has been carried out to study other species of cestodes which might be found in the intestine of the *Passer domesticus* in this locality.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Two hundred and fifty sparrows were captured alive during the course of one year for the purpose of collecting the cestodes from their small intestine, Collection, preparation of specimens including compression, fixation in 10% formol-saline and staining with acetic acid alum carmine followed the usually procedures were applied. However, some scolices were examined while fresh, after being gently compressed between a slide and a cover slip, to visualise better the presence or absence of hooks.

RESULTS

A new species of cestode is recovered and described herein.

Family Dilepididae Railliet and HENRY, 1909.

Subfamily Dilepidinae FUHRMAN, 1907.

Genus *Anomotaenia* COHN., 1900

Species *Anomotaenia assuti* sp. nov. (fig. 1).

Ten sparrows (4%) were found infected with the present

parasite. Morphological criteria (Table 1).

Length: 6-8 cms (197-219 proglottids)

Width : The maximum reaches 0.75-0.87 mm.

Scolex: Lemon-shaped, length 0.333-0.349 mm. and width 0.199-0.233mm.

Neck: Length 0.133-0.149 mm and width 0.083-0.099 mm.

Suckers: Four more or less rounded, 0.099-0.116 mm.

HOOKS 18-20 in number of Typical taenoid hooks carried by a protrusible rostellum. The hook consists of a long handle, a very short guard and a blade which is slightly longer than the guard.

Measurments: Handle 18-20 μ m, the guard is 1.2-2 μ m.

Rostellar sac: 0.11-0.15 by 0.09-0.061 mm.

Proglottids: Immature and mature ones are broader than long, while gravid segments are firstly squarish then become longer than broad.

Measurments: Immature segments: 0.108-0.246 by 0.050-0.288 mm.

Mature segments: 0.570-0.665 by 0.600-0.810 mm.

Gravid segments: measure 1.10-1.220 by 0.420-0.490 mm.

A mature segment contains 17-23 testes, the genital pores are irregularly alternating and lie in the anterior fifth of segment margin. The cirrus measures 0.078-0.144 mm by 0.162 mm and is covered with minute spines. Seminal vesicle 0.158-0.252 mm. The ovary fills the anterior part of segment between excretory vessels. Vitelline glands post-ovarian and median in position. Vagina opens into genital atrium behind cirrus sac and continuous as thin walled duct leading into a small receptaculum seminis.

A gravid segment: Mainly contains the uterus which is lobed containing numerous spherical eggs with hexacanth embryo. The ova measure 0.043 mm in diameter. The genital pore lies at the anterior half of the segment margin.

DISCUSSION

The present description allocates this parasite under the family *DILEPIDIDAE* RAILLIET and HENRY, 1909, SUBFAMILY *DILEPIDINAE* FULHRMAN, 1907, GENUS *ANOMOTAENIA* COHN, 1900.

On reviewing the available literature, including YAMAGUTI (1959) many species of *Anomotaenia* have been described by different authors. However, the present parasite is more or less similar to *Anomotaenia quelea*, METTRICK, 1961 described by IDRIS (1979) from the passerine bird *Quelea* in the sudan. On comparing the present species with that described by IDRIS (Table 1), it is found that the measurments of the scolex, suckers and hooks are quite different (Table 1). Moreover, the

difference in the type of the host and the locality, make it justifiable to consider the present cestode a distinct one to which the name *Anomotaenia assuti* sp. nov. is proposed.

Host: *Passer domesticus* location, small intestine.

Locality: Assiut city.

Type species: Deposited in the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, Assiut University.

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Table (1): Comparison between *Anomotaenia quelea* Mettrick, 1961 and *Anomotaenia assuti* sp.nov.

Morphological criteria	<i>Anomotaenia quelea</i> Mettrick, 1961	<i>Anomot assuti</i> sp.nov.
Length	48 mm (Idr is, 1979) 70 mm (mettrick, 1961)	60-80 mm
width	1.9 mm	0.75-0.87 mm
Scolex	0.320-0.340 mm	0.333-0.349 mm
Neck	0.300 mm	0.133-0.149 mm
Suckers diameter	0.117-0.127 mm	0.099-0.116 mm
Hooks number	24	18-20
Hooks measurments	Handle-3 times the guard	Handle - 3 times, blade slightly longer than guard
Whole length of rostellar sac	59-67 μ reaches behind suckers	15-20 μ end near the posterior rim of suckers
Genital pore	Lies anteriorly at the lateral margin, irregular alternating	The same
Cirrus	reaches excretory vessele	The same

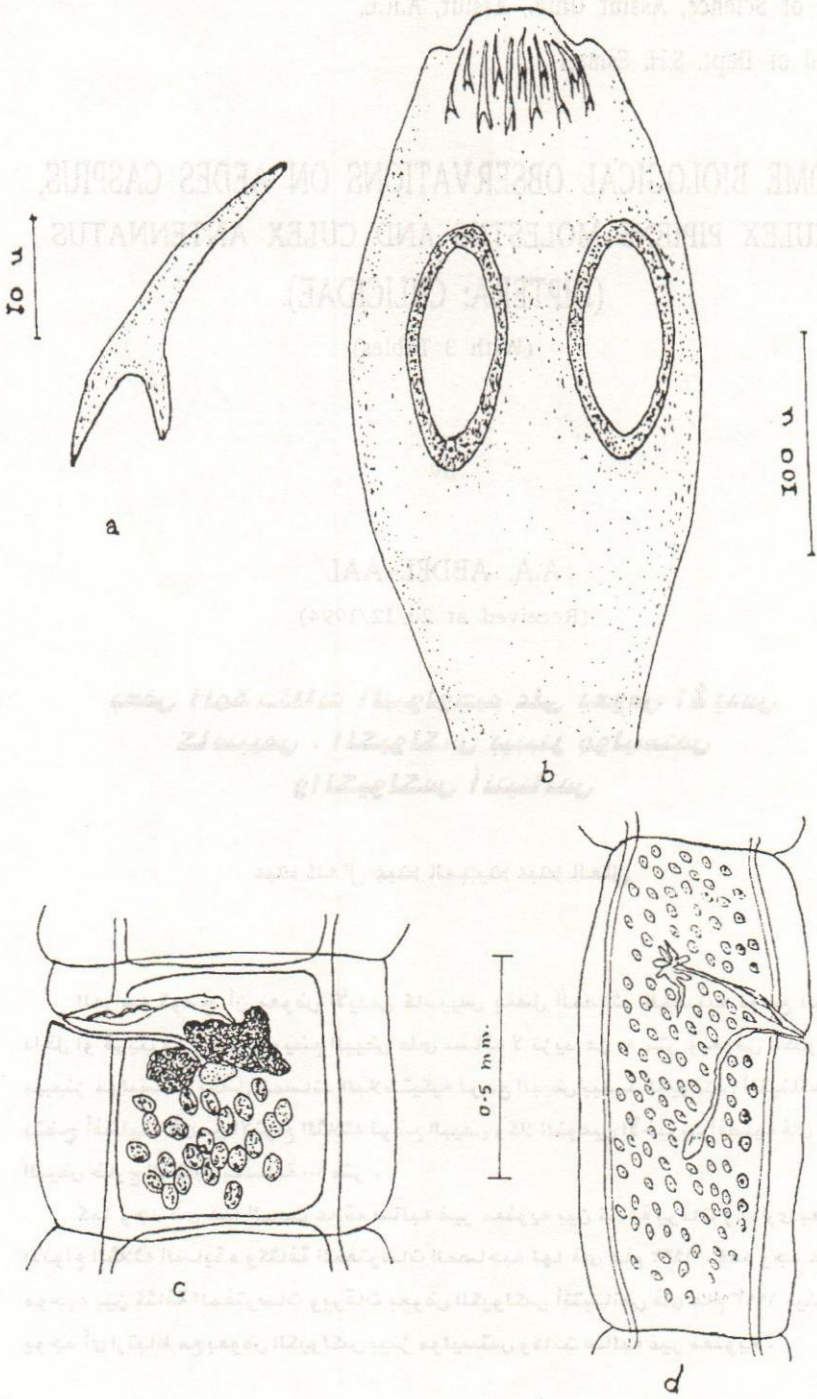


Fig. (I) ANOMOTAENIA ASSUTI sp. Nov.