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I. Wissenschaftliche Mitteilungen.

1. A new species of Monostome from the Painted Terrapin, *Chrysemys marginata*.

By Barker and Parsons.

eingeg. 23. Juli 1914.

In a recent study of the parasites of fresh water turtles we have found a new species of trematode, a condensed preliminary description of which is as follows.

Aorchis extensus gen. et sp. n.

Specific characters: Body thick, somewhat flattened dorso-ventrally; sides almost parallel; anterior end pointed, posterior end rounded; cuticula smooth, spines absent. Length 4,90 mm. to 12,24 mm., width 1,57 mm. to 2,65 mm.

One sucker present at anterior end, small terminal, globular, musculature poorly developed.

Pharynx globular, composed of two muscular bean shaped halves. Esophagus short, wide and slightly muscular. Two simple intestinal ceca, one on either side of the body, extend to the posterior end of the worm where they end blindly. Ovary, large, globular in anterior end

of body, posterior to intestinal bifurcation. Shell gland, compact, oval body, smaller than and posterior to ovary. Vitelline glands dorsal to intestine, in compact u-shape mass, anterior end closed, arms extend from ovary to posterior end of body. Seminal receptacle and Laurer's canal absent. Uterus passes caudad from shell gland, traverses length of body in four coiled and straight longitudinal tubes, the last tube passing cephalad in median plane between intestinal ceca, ventral to esophagus and opening in thre genital pore. Uterine tubes not confined to intercecal region. Genital pore small, ventral to pharynx. Seminal vesicle, large, elongated, sac-like, filled with sperm cells, extends from common genital pore caudad to plane slightly posterior to ovary. Cirrus absent. Testes absent in mature forms. Testes evidently atrophied and degenerated, a case similar to that described by Looss (1902, p. 677) in *Monostomum reticulare* and *Monostomum aberrans*. (A small, compact, globular body was found in one immature specimen near the intestinal bifurcation. This body may prove to be a testis.)

Eggs oval, thin shell, operculum absent, small blunt polar stalk present. Size: 0,09 to 0,18 mm. long by 0,06 to 0,13 mm. wide.

Habitat. Lungs of painted terrapin, *Chrysemys marginata*, in Minnesota lakes and Mississippi River.

In attempting to determine the systematic position of this monostome, it appears to be a mis-fit for it fits neither in Looss' (1902) nor in Lühe's (1909) classification and according to Kossack's (1911) classification, which is based on the most recent and thoro revision of the monostomes, it cannot be placed in the family Cyclocoelidae on account of the blind endings of the intestinal ceca as well as the presence of a definite oral sucker and a polar stalk on the egg. On the other hand it cannot find place in the family Notocotylidae on account of the absence of ventral glands or ribs and also on account of the anterior position and the different relation of the genitals. In general it is more like the Cyclocoelidae than the Notocotylidae but either a new family will need to be created or the family Cyclocoelidae must be expanded so as to include this new monostome. One hesitates to create a new family on the basis of a single genus and for the present we would suggest that a new genus *Aorchis* (without testes) be established under the family Cyclocoelidae. As a specific name we suggest *extensus* (uterine coils stretched out) as a diagnostic one.

The detailed description and discussion, together with drawings of this new monostome which are now completed, will be published as soon as the study, new in progress, of immature specimens is completed.

July, 23, 1914. The Zoological Laboratory, the University of Nebraska.

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Autor(en)/Author(s): Parsons P.A., Barker A.

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