



Redescription of *Huridostomum formionis* Mamaev, 1970 (Digenea: Monorchiidae) from the black pomfret, *Apolectus niger* (Carangidae), from the coast of Visakhapatnam, Bay of Bengal with a discussion on related genera and the proposal of *Pseudametrodaptus* n. gen.

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Abstract

The monorchiid trematode *Huridostomum formionis* Mamaev, 1970 originally described from the black pomfret, *Apolectus niger*, from the Gulf of Tonkin by Mamaev (1970) is redescribed based on material collected from the same host from the Visakhapatnam coast, Bay of Bengal. The redescription provides additional information on the arrangement of the enlarged spines on the anterodorsal region of the oral sucker, the structure of the terminal genitalia and the course of uterus. The most significant features typical for the genus are considered to be the combination of morphological features including the presence of enlarged spines along the anterodorsal margin of the oral sucker, a very long elliptical cirrus sac, a unipartite terminal organ with the metraterm joining it distally, and extensive uterine coils. The genus *Huridostomum* is included in the subfamily Monorchiinae, its relationship with other monorchiid genera possessing spines anterodorsal to the oral sucker is discussed, and the validity of some of these genera is examined. *Neopisthomonorchis* Varma, 1982 is synonymized with *Ametrodaptus* Bravo-Hollis, 1956 and the new combination *Ametrodaptus pristopomatis* (Varma, 1982) n. comb. is suggested. *Pseudametrodaptus* n. gen. is erected to include the Indian species of the genus *Ametrodaptus* characterized by the absence of spines in the genital atrium and the presence of a unipartite terminal organ with the metraterm joining its distal end. The following new combinations are suggested: *Pseudametrodaptus secundus* (Madhavi, 1977) n. comb., *Pseudametrodaptus bravoae* (Ahmad, 1985) n. comb., *Pseudametrodaptus caballeroi* (Ahmad, 1985) n. comb. and *Pseudametrodaptus fischthali* (Ahmad & Dhar, 1987) n. comb.

Key words: *Huridostomum formionis*, Monorchiidae, *Apolectus niger*, black pomfret, Carangidae, Bay of Bengal, *Pseudametrodaptus* n. gen.

Introduction

Huridostomum Mamaev, 1970 was erected by Mamaev (1970) with the description of *Huridostomum formionis* Mamaev, 1970 from the black pomfret, *Apolectus niger* Bloch (= *Formio niger* Bloch), from the Gulf of Tonkin as the type species. Until now the genus remained monospecific and Mamaev's was the only report of the type species. During our studies on the digenean parasites of marine fishes of Visakhapatnam coast, Bay of Bengal, several individuals of a monorchiid trematode identified as *H. formionis* were obtained from the black pomfret, *A. niger*. A detailed study of these flukes revealed that the original description, which is in Russian, is brief and lacking in some details. In this account, *H. formionis* is redescribed and the relationship of the genus *Huridostomum* with other monorchiid genera is discussed. Observations made on the morphological variations noted in the present collection of specimens are furnished. Validity of the other two monorchiid genera possessing enlarged spines along the antero-dorsal margin of oral sucker, namely *Ametrodaptus* Bravo-Hollis, 1956 and *Neopisthomonorchis* Varma, 1982 is discussed. Representative specimens were deposited in the Natural History Museum, London, UK (BMNH).