

***Dendromonocotyle bradsmithi* n. sp. (Monogenea: Monocotylidae)
from the skin of *Myliobatis australis* (Elasmobranchii: Myliobatidae) off Adelaide and Perth, Australia: description of adult
and larva**

LESLIE A. CHISHOLM¹, VANESSA GLENNON¹ & IAN D. WHITTINGTON^{1,2}

¹Marine Parasitology Laboratory, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, The University of Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia 5005, Australia, e-mail: chisholm.leslie@saugov.sa.gov.au; vanessa.glennon@adelaide.edu.au; whittington.ian@saugov.sa.gov.au

²Monogenean Research Laboratory, Parasitology Section, The South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia 5000, Australia

Abstract

Dendromonocotyle bradsmithi n. sp. (Monogenea: Monocotylidae) is described from the dorsal skin surface of the southern eagle ray, *Myliobatis australis* Macleay, 1881, collected from the mouth of the Port Adelaide River, Adelaide, South Australia. Specimens of *D. bradsmithi* were also found on 2 *M. australis* specimens collected off Mandurah, Western Australia (WA) and on 1 *M. australis* kept in a public aquarium in Perth (AQWA), WA. *Dendromonocotyle bradsmithi* is distinguished most easily from the other 12 species in the genus by the morphology of the distal portion of the male copulatory organ. The anatomy of the oncomiracidium determined by examining live larvae and the distribution of the ciliated epidermal cells and sensilla revealed by silver staining are also provided.

Key words: Monogenea, Monocotylidae, *Dendromonocotyle bradsmithi* n. sp., South Australia, Western Australia, Myliobatidae, *Myliobatis australis*, elasmobranch

Introduction

The Monocotylidae Taschenberg, 1879 (Monogenea) are parasites exclusively of chondrichthyan fishes (sharks, rays and chimaeras). This monogenean family currently comprises 121 valid species. Of these, 49 species (40%) have been described from hosts collected in Australian waters. This distributional pattern is probably biased because monocotylids have been the focus of much study by researchers working in Australia,