

Gorgocephalus yaaji* n. sp. (Digenea: Gorgocephalidae) from the brassy chub *Kyphosus vaigiensis* (Perciformes: Kyphosidae) off Lizard Island, northern Great Barrier Reef and further records of *G. kyphosi

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Abstract

A new species *Gorgocephalus yaaji* is described in the intestine of *Kyphosus vaigiensis* from the waters off Lizard Island, Queensland, Australia. It differs from *Gorgocephalus kyphosi* by its broader body shape, the extension of the vitellarium into the forebody, a relatively longer forebody, cirrus-sac and post-caecal region, and a shorter distance between the ventral sucker and the ovary. It differs from *Gorgocephalus manteri* in its size, its tandem testes, and the ratios of width, ventral sucker to ovary distance and ovary to testes distance to body-length. *Gorgocephalus kyphosi* is reported in the pyloric caeca of *K. vaigiensis* from waters off Moorea, French Polynesia, and Lizard Island, Queensland, Australia. Measurements and an illustration are given of the latter species.

Key words: *Gorgocephalus yaaji*, *Gorgocephalus kyphosi*, Gorgocephalidae, Digenea, *Kyphosus vaigiensis*, Kyphosidae, Perciformes, Moorea, French Polynesia, Lizard Island, Great Barrier Reef, new species

Introduction

The Gorgocephalidae Manter is one of the more recently recognised digenean families. Manter (1966) erected it as a subfamily of the Lepocreadiidae Odhner and Yamaguti (1971) raised it to family rank. Bray (2005) summarised the short history of the taxon, pointing out that, although it has been considered to have similarities with the Bucephalidae Poche it is likely to be related to the Lepocreadiidae. Molecular evidence presented by Olson *et al.* (2003) strengthened this view; their classification, based on Bayesian infer-