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Descriptions of ten known species of the superfamily Mononchoidea (Mononchida: Nematoda) from North India with a detailed account on their variations

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Abstract

Ten species of the superfamily Mononchoidea from fourteen populations collected during a survey of terrestrial and freshwater habitats of North India, are described and illustrated. The species include *Clarkus papillatus* (Bastian, 1865) Jairajpuri, 1970, *Prionchulus muscorum* (Dujardin, 1845) Wu & Hoeppli, 1929, *Mylonchulus contractus* Jairajpuri, 1970, *M. hawaiiensis* (Cassidy, 1931) Andrássy, 1958, *M. lacustris* (Cobb *in* Cobb, 1915) Andrássy, 1958, *M. minor* (Cobb, 1893) *Andrássy, 1958, M. obtusicaudatus* (Daday, 1899) Andrássy, 1958, *M. vasis* Yeates, 1992, *Sporonchulus ibitiensis* (Carvalho, 1951) Andrássy, 1958 and *S. vagabundus* Jairajpuri, 1971. *Mylonchulus vasis* Yeates, 1992 is reported for the first time from India. The variable, as well as the relatively consistent characters are discussed in different populations to assess their role in the diagnosis of species.

Key words: Description, LM, SEM, mononchs, taxonomy, *Clarkus*, *Mylonchulus*, *Prionchulus, Sporonchulus*

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