

Diagnostically study of the Digestive system Helminthes platyrhyncho's platyrhynchos L. in Baghdad and Kut District, IRAQ.*

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Summary

A total of 247 specimens of the Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*) were collected from Baghdad City and Kut City (93 and 154 specimens, respectively). The collection was started from October 1999 to September 2000. The aim of this study was to know the endoparasitic Helminthes in the digestive system of Mallard. The following parasites were observed:-

1. Trematoda :-

Hypoderaum conoideum (Bloch, 1782) Dietz, 1909

2. Cestoda :-

Diorchis stefanskii Czap, 1956

Hymenolepis mastigopradiata Polk, 1942

Sobolevicanthus gracilis (Zeder, 1803) Spasskey et Spasskey, 1954

Fambbiraria fasciolaris Pallas, 1781

3. Nematoda :-

Amidostomum acutum Zeder, 1800

These species were recorded for the first time in Iraq, except *F. fasciolaris* and *H. Conoideum*.

Introduction

Ducks are the important source of meat and eggs in Iraq. Intestinal hel-

minthes adversely influence the successful rearing of poultry as they are

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the chief cause of unthriftiness leading to emaciation and decreased egg production (Laballastiere, 1995, Jacob et al., 2001). Knowledge of the identity of the parasites harbored is essential to formulate an effective and control programmes against them. Parasite infecting Duck (Mallard) have reviewed by many workers (Kishor & Sharma, 1991; Kinsella et. al. 1994; Zuchowsha, 1997; Dalimi & Mobedi, 1998) but little is known about the parasites of the domestic duck in Iraq (Al-Maya, 1994; Mahmoud, 2001).

Materials and Methods

The host materials were the domestic duck *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* (order Anseriformes) adult. They were obtained from various locations in Baghdad and Kut City during October 1999 to September 2000. The total number of the ducks examined was 247. The proventriculus, gizzard, small intestine, caecum, large intestine and cloaca were separated, opened, and each placed with contents into alabelled bottle containing water. The liver was sectioned, teased and examined, and the gall bladder was opened and examined macroscopically and under a dissecting microscope. The trematodes and Cestodes were washed thoroughly, and stained with modified carmine and mounted in Canada balsam (Rahife, 1998). The nematodes were washed from the tissue and fixed and cleared in Lactophenol. Classification was based on Yamaguti (1958; 1959; 1961) and Confirmed by the American Natural History Museum.

Results

The numbers of infected ducks, percentage of infection, mean intensity of infection and standard error are shown in Table 1.

The following parasites were recovered:-

1. Cestodes

The rate of infection with cestodes was higher than with nematodes or trematodes (Table 1). The recovered cestodes were:

***Diorchis stefanskii* Czap, 1956 (Cestoda, Hymenolepidae) (Figs. 1):**

Was recovered from the small and large intestine. The infection ranged between 2-9 worms/host with a percentage of infection 1.82% in Baghdad ducks, 3-156 worms/host with a percentage of infection 67.53% for Kut ducks. The length of the worm ranged from 184 to 435 with an average (308.9)mm, the maximum width in the region of the gravid segment ranged 4.6 to 11.6 with an average (8.54)mm, Scolex diameter 1.5-3.9 (2.62) mm, rostellar hooks 0.5-0.6 with an average (0.5)mm in one circle, Sucker diameter 0.8-1.3 with an average (1.1)mm, number of testes 3, number of ovary 1, genital pore in the middle of lateral edge of proglottid.

***Hymenolepis mastigopradiata* Polk, 1942 (Cestoda, Hymenolepidae) (Fig.2) :**

Was recovered from the small and large intestine. The infection ranged between 3-16 worms/host with a percentage of infection 8.27% in Baghdad ducks and 57 worms/host with a percentage of infection 40.90% in Kut ducks. The length of the worm ranged from 54 to 87 with an average (67.3)mm, a maximum width in the region of the gravid segment was 4.2 to 9.4 with an average (6.9)mm, number of testes 3, number of ovary 1, genital pore in the middle of lateral edge of proglottid.

***Sobolevicanthus gracilis* (Zeder, 1803) Spasskey et Spasskey, 1954 (Cestoda, Hymenolepidae) (Figs.3):**

Was recovered from the small intestine of Baghdad ducks. The infection ranged between 6-28 worms/host with a percentage of infection 27.95%. The length of the worm ranged from 0.7 to 26 with an average (13.4)mm, maximum width 2.8 to 7 with an average (4.01)mm, Scolex diameter 0.7-1.1 with an average (0.9)mm, rostellar hooks 0.6-0.7 with an average (0.37)mm in one circle, Sucker diameter 0.3-0.7 with an average (0.9)mm, number of testes 3, number of ovary 1, genital pore in the middle of lateral edge of proglottid.

2. Nematoda

***Amidostomum acutum* Zeder, 1800 (Nematoda, Amidostomidae) (Figs.4):**

This parasite was recovered from the gizzard. The number of parasites found ranged from 2-29 worms/host with a percentage of infection 22.5% in Baghdad ducks, 2-37 worms/host with a percentage of infection 37.01% in Kut ducks. The mean length of the male was 8 to 14 with an average (10.8)mm and the width of bursa was 3.6 to 4.3 with an average (3.88)mm. The female was larger than male, it measured 14 to 21 with an average (15.6)mm long.

Discussion

Since there are no previous works on the parasites of duck in Iraq. Most of the species of parasites recorded have also been found by workers in other countries, e.g., Avery (1966b) in United Kingdom, Kinsella (1973) & Kinsella et al. (1994) in Florida (U.S.A) Birova et al. (1990) in Germany, Kishor & Sharma (1991) in India and Dalimi & Mobedi (1998) in Iran. As shown in the results, the most dominant animal food is ants. This may be correlated to high intensity of Cestodes, which comprise 30.10% in Baghdad ducks, 67.53% in Kut ducks. Ants perhaps serve as intermediate host of these parasites. The cestoda *Diorchis stefanskii*; *Hymenolepis mastigopraditae* and *Sobolevicanthus gracilis* were reported from Wild duck (Mallard) in Mid Wales, United Kingdom, America (Owen, 1951; Avery, 1966; Kinsella et al., 1994). The nematode *Amidostomum acutum* were the only helminths with direct life cycle found in this study, and lives usually in the gizzard of wild and domesticated duck (Birova et al., 1990). The most sever infection in the present work was by cestodes, this is similar to the results reported by I-Iadithi & Mustafa (1991). The reasons are perhaps related to the different feeding patterns of hosts,

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Table 1 - Helminths recovered from the alimentary tracts of 212 ducks examined during October 1999 to September 2000

Class	Name of the parasite	No. of infected hosts	% of infection	mean n	S.E.	City
Trematoda	<i>H. contonum</i>	0	0	0	0	Baghdad
		22	14.28	1.4	0.6	Kut
	<i>H. mastigopraditae</i>	17	18.28	6.05	0.23	Baghdad
		63	40.9	13.84	0.89	Kut
Cestoda	<i>D. stefanski</i>	11	11.82	4.27	1.06	Baghdad
		104	67.33	38.98	2.6	Kut
	<i>S. gracilis</i>	16	17.95	20.19	1.56	Baghdad
		0	0	0	0	Kut
<i>P. fascioluris</i>	0	0	0	0	Baghdad	
	9	8.81	4.66	1.13	Kut	
Nematoda	<i>A. acutum</i>	21	23.38	6.04	0.27	Baghdad
		57	37.01	14.36	0.71	Kut

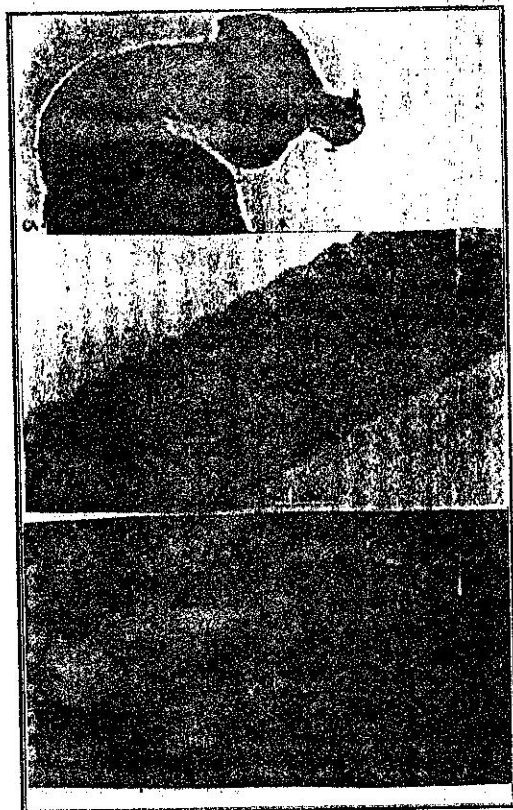


Fig.1: *Diorchis stefanskii*
a. Scolex
b. Mature segment
c. Gravid segment



Fig.2: Mature segment of *Hymenolepis mastigopradiæ*

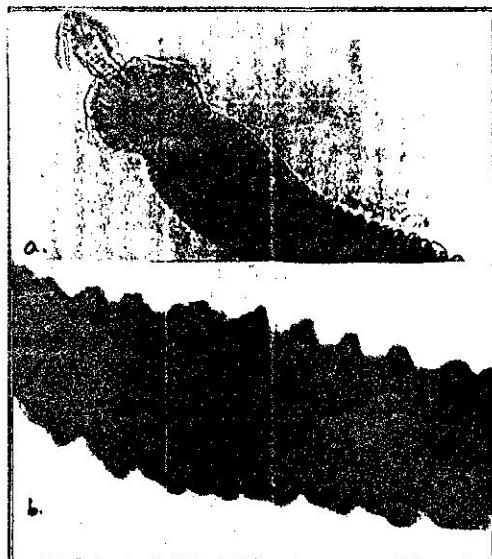
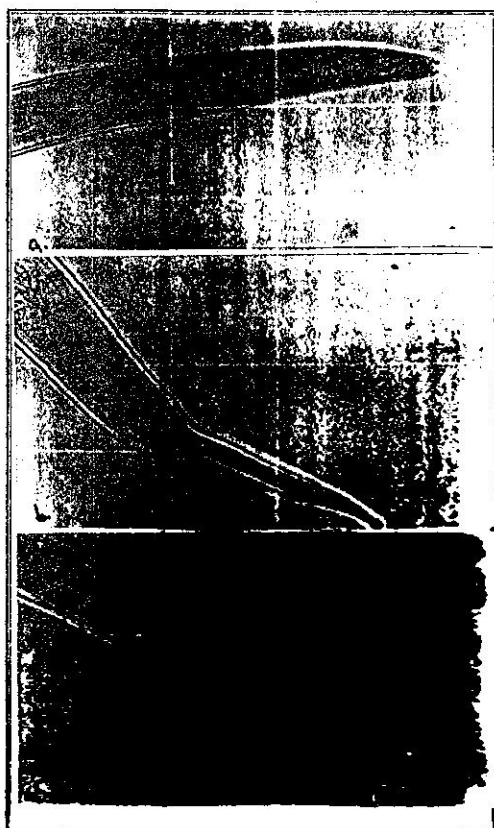


Fig.3: *Sobolevicanthus gracilis*
a. Scolex
b. Mature segment



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دراسة تشخيصية لديدان الجهاز الهضمي للخضيري في
مدينتي بغداد والكوت

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الخلاصة

تتبع الدراسة جمع ٢٤٧ طيراً من الخضيري المدجن Mallard المسمى علمياً *Anas platyrhynchos* ، ابتداء من تشرين الأول ١٩٩٩ ولغاية أيلول ٢٠٠٠ من مدينتي بغداد ٩٣ طيراً والكوت ١٥٤ طيراً، بهدف التعرف على الديدان الداخلية المتطفلة في جهازه الهضمي. وسجلت دودة المنقوبات من نوع *Hypoderaum conoideum* والديدان الشريطية *Diorchis stefanskii*; *Hymenolepis Fambiraria fasciolaris mastigopradita*; *Sobolevicanthus gracilis* & *Amiodostomum acutum* في القناة الهضمية للخضيري المدجن ولأول مرة في العراق ما عدا الدودتين *Fambiraria fasciolaris* ; *Hypoderaum conoideum* فقد سبق تسجيلهما.