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Veterinary Parasitology 137 (2006) 253–261

veterinary
parasitology

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Henneguya garavelli n. sp. and *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp. (Myxozoa: Myxobolidae) in the gills of *Cyphocharax nagelli* (Osteichthyes: Curimatidae) from Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São José do Rio Pardo, São Paulo, Brazil

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Received 8 June 2003; received in revised form 1 June 2005; accepted 5 December 2005

Abstract

The present work describes myxozoans found in *Cyphocharax nagelli* (Characiformes: Curimatinae) commonly called “sagüiru” collected from Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São José do Rio Pardo, São Paulo, Brazil. From a total of 38 examined fish, 24 were infected with *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp. (63% prevalence) and two with *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp. (5% prevalence) in the gills. Spores were studied by staining and fresh spores were observed by differential interference contrast optics. *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp. differs from *Henneguya iheringi*, *Henneguya occulta*, *Henneguya cesarpintoi*, *Henneguya santae*, *Henneguya pisciforme*, *Henneguya amazonica*, *Henneguya striolata*, *Henneguya leporinicola* and *Henneguya chydadea* in spore length and from *Henneguya travassosi*, *Henneguya adherens*, *Henneguya malabarica*, *Henneguya piaractus* and also *Henneguya chydadea* in polar capsule length and tail length. *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp. was very different when compared to other species of *Myxobolus* in its morphology and the biggest size of spore body. The authors present tables with comparative measurements of Brazilian myxozoan parasites.

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Keywords: *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp.; *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp.; Brazilian fish; *Cyphocharax nagelli*; Species comparison

1. Introduction

In Brazil, Pinto (1928a,b) described *H. linearis* in the gills of *Rhamdia sebae* and *Pseudoplatystoma*

fasciatum, *Henneguya occulta* in Callichthyidae fish, *H. wenyoni* in *Astyanax fasciatus* and *Henneguya iheringi* in *Serrasalmus spilopleura*. Guimarães and Bergamin (1934) observed *Henneguya santae* in *Tetragonopterus santae*. Azevedo and Matos (1989) have studied *Henneguya* infection in the gills of *Hoplosternum littorale* while Rocha et al. (1992)

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observed *Henneguya amazonica* in *Crenicichla lepidota*. *Henneguya adherens* was present in *Acestorhynchus falcatus* (see Azevedo and Matos, 1995) and *Henneguya malabarica* in *Hoplias malabaricus* (see Azevedo and Matos, 1996). Gioia and Cordeiro (1996) assembled Brazilian myxosporean in a checklist. Martins and Souza (1997) reported *Henneguya piaractus* in the gills of *Piaractus mesopotamicus* and reported severe mortality caused by *Henneguya* infections in the gills of *P. mesopotamicus* (Martins et al., 1997). The genus *Myxobolus* harbour a great number of described species, most of them in fishes from Eurasia and North America (Molnár and Békési, 1993). Until now, 20 species occurs in wild and cultured Brazilian fish. Thus, 18 species were reported in wild fish while *M. colossomatis* was observed in cultivated *P. mesopotamicus*, hybrid tambacu (*P. mesopotamicus* male × *Colossoma macropomum* female) and *Astyanax bimaculatus* (Martins et al., 1998, 1999b).

The present work describes new species of *Henneguya* Thélohan, 1892 and *Myxobolus* Bütschli, 1882 in native freshwater fish *Cyphocharax nagelli* from Rio do Peixe Reservoir in Brazil.

2. Material and methods

Thirty eight specimens were collected with net from the Rio do Peixe Reservoir in the City of São José do Rio Pardo, SP, Brazil in September 29, 2000 and transported to laboratory in ice. Four hours after capture the fish were examined. The gills were placed on Petri plates with 0.65% saline solution for microscopic observation. Gill fragments were compressed between a slide and a cover slip for smear preparation. The smear was air-dried at room temperature, fixed by immersion in undiluted methylic alcohol and stained by 1:9 Giemsa solution for 10 min. Myxozoan identification was performed according to Lom and Noble (1984), Lom and Arthur (1989) and Martins et al. (1999a). For the visualization of the iodophilic vacuole, the spores were fixed in a 10% buffered formalin solution and stained by Lugol's solution. A total of 20 cysts, 70 spores of *Henneguya* and 30 spores of *Myxobolus* were measured (μm) and drawn with a camera lucida and a light microscope. Forty spores of *Henneguya* and 20 spores of

Myxobolus were measured in fresh conditions. For measurement and description, fresh spores were mounted in glycerine gelatine for observation by differential interference contrast optics with an Olympus BX 60 microscope. Prevalence was calculated according to Bush et al. (1997).

3. Results

3.1. *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp.

Cyst: the cysts presented dark colour with circular to ellipsoidal shape of 60.9 ± 13.7 (42.8–63.2) length and 34.7 ± 7.3 (24.5–42.8) width (Figs. 1–3).

Spore characteristics: the parasitological examination showed, from a frontal view, elongated spindle-shape spores, provided with long bifurcated tail when observed in fresh conditions. Two polar capsules situated on the anterior extremity with insignificant difference in size, each of them contained an anterior polar filament. The sporoplasm and an iodophilic vacuole in the interior of the spore stained by Lugol were observed. The spore

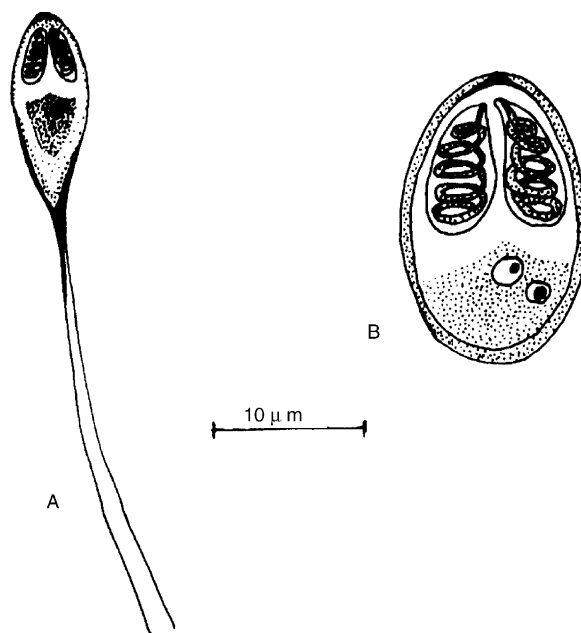


Fig. 1. Line drawing in frontal view of *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp. (A) and *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp. (B) from the gills of *Cyphocharax nagelli* collected in Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São Paulo, Brazil.

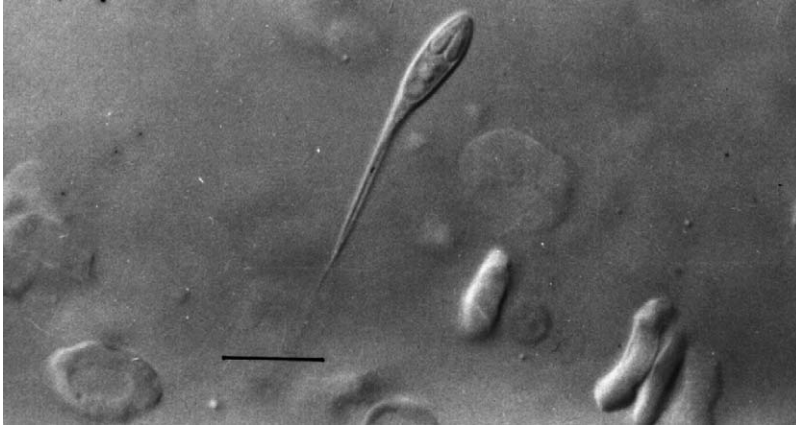


Fig. 2. A mature spore of *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp. observed by differential interference contrast optics. Note bifurcated tail. Fresh mount (bar = 10 μ m).

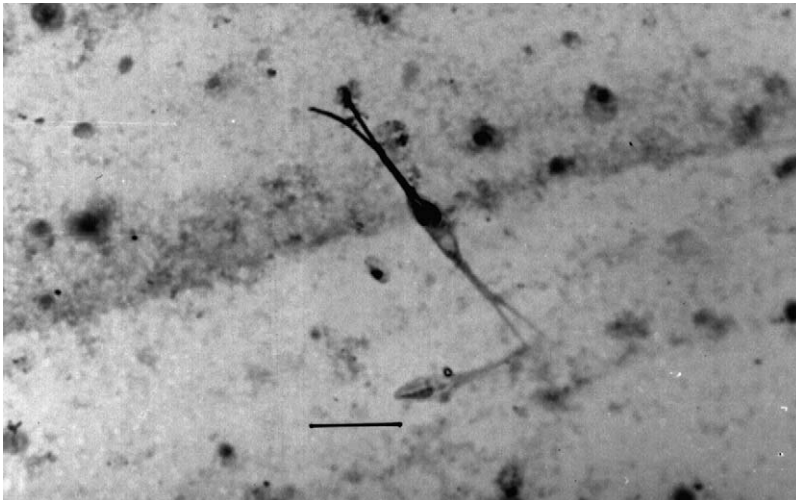


Fig. 3. Spore of *Henneguya garavelli* n. sp. showing extruded polar filament. Stained by Giemsa (bar = 10 μ m).

characteristics were: total length with tail 28.9 ± 2.5 (24.8–31.6); body spore length 11.5 ± 1.4 (8.8–13.6); body spore width 5.0 ± 1.2 (4.0–7.2); polar capsule length 4.3 ± 0.3 (3.6–4.8); polar capsule width 1.5 ± 0.2 (1.2–1.7); number of coils of polar filament 8–9; distance of anterior extremity of the spore to the polar capsule 0.8 ± 0.2 (0.5–1.6); tail length 17.4 ± 2.4 (12.8–20.8). Polar filament length 29.5 ± 3.7 (24.0–32.8).

Fresh spore characteristics: total length with tail 46.6 ± 2.4 (41.2–51.5); body spore length 13.6 ± 1.0 (12.0–14.4); body spore width 4.0 ± 0.1 (3.9–4.1); polar capsule length 5.4 ± 0.4 (4.8–6.0); polar capsule

width 1.2 ± 0.1 (1.0–1.5); tail length 33.0 ± 2.6 (29.2–37.5); in a sutural view the spores are flattened with 3.2 ± 0.5 (2.4–4.0) thickness.

The name *H. garavelli* n. sp. is proposed to homage Dr. Julio Cesar Garavello (Federal University of São Carlos, SP, Brazil). The comparison of fresh and fixed spores with those Brazilian species described on fish is shown in Table 1.

Type host: *Cyphocharax nagelli* Steindachner, 1881

Site of infection: gill filaments (prevalence 63%)

Locality: Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São Paulo, Brazil

Specimens deposited: FIOCRUZ-Av. Brasil 4365, 21045-900, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. CHIOC no. 34986, fixed gills 34818

Table 1
Comparative measurements of species of *Henneguya* described in fish, in Brazil

Species	Total <i>L</i>	Spore <i>L</i>	Spore <i>W</i>	P.C.L.	P.C.W.	I.V.	Tail <i>L</i>	Host	Locality	Author
<i>H. iheringi</i>	–	22.0	6.0	3.4	2.0	Yes	–	<i>Serrasalmo spilopleura</i>	São Paulo	Pinto (1928a)
<i>H. occulta</i>	38.0	18.0	9.0	8.0	–	–	20.0	<i>Loricaria</i> sp.	Rio de Janeiro	Pinto (1928b)
<i>H. wenyoni</i>	21.0	10.2	5.2	3.7	1.5	Yes	10.8	<i>Astyanax fasciatus</i>	São Paulo	Pinto (1928b)
<i>H. cesarpintoi</i>	–	13.5	4.2	2.6	0.8	No	–	<i>Astyanax fasciatus</i>	São Paulo	Guimarães (1931)
<i>H. travassosi</i>	27.3 ± 0.7	10.6 ± 0.2	4.3 ± 0.3	3.6 ± 0.3	–	No	16.7 ± 0.8	<i>Astyanax fasciatus</i> and <i>Leporinus copelandi</i>	São Paulo	Guimarães and Bergamin (1933)
<i>H. santae</i>	21.0 ± 1.1	9.6 ± 0.5	5.3 ± 0.4	3.0 ± 0.3	–	Yes	11.8 ± 1.1	<i>Tetragonopterus santae</i>	São Paulo	Guimarães and Bergamin (1934)
<i>H. psorospermica</i>	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<i>Carp, lambari and tilapia</i>	Paraná	Schönhofen et al. (1983)
<i>H. pisciforme</i>	31.0 ± 1.4	20.4 ± 1.5	6.1 ± 0.5	4.3 ± 0.6	1.7 ± 0.4	Yes	10.6 ± 1.3	<i>Hypressobrycon anisitsi</i>	São Paulo	Cordeiro et al. (1983/1984)
<i>H. theca</i>	40.6–52.6	20.3–28.4	3.0–4.1	9.8–12.5	1.0–1.5	Yes	20.3–24.2	<i>Eigemannia virescens</i>	Brazil	Kent and Hoffman (1984)
<i>H. intracornea</i>	66.7 ± 2.2	42.4 ± 2.3	6.6 ± 0.7	8.6 ± 0.6	2.4 ± 0.3	Yes	24.3 ± 2.1	<i>Astyanax scabripinnis</i>	São Paulo	Gioia et al. (1986)
<i>Henneguya</i> sp.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	<i>Mugil liza</i> and <i>M. curema</i>	São Paulo	Godinho et al. (1988)
<i>Henneguya</i> sp.	58.7 ^a	13.5	5.3	–	–	–	45.2	<i>Hoplosternum littorale</i>	Amazonas	Azevedo and Matos (1989)
<i>Henneguya</i> sp.	49.9	14.2	5.0	5.8	1.8	–	35.7	<i>Pimelodus maculatus</i>	São Paulo	Cordeiro et al. (1989)
<i>H. amazonica</i>	59.3 ± 3.0 ^a	13.9 ± 1.0	5.7 ± 0.4	3.3 ± 0.1	1.5 ± 0.2	No	45.4 ± 3.3	<i>Crenicichla lepidota</i>	Amazonas	Rocha et al. (1992)
<i>H. adherens</i>	30.7–35.1 ^a	10.5–13.8	5.1–6.5	2.8–3.5	1.0–1.6	–	18.0–21.7	<i>Acestrorhynchus falcatus</i>	Pará	Azevedo and Matos (1995)
<i>H. malabarica</i>	26.6–29.8	11.8–13.1	4.8x3.6	3.0–4.3	1.6–2.2	Yes	16.2–18.9	<i>Hoplias malabaricus</i>	Amazonas	Azevedo and Matos (1996)
<i>H. testicularis</i>	27.0–28.5	14.0–14.5	6.0–6.5	8.5–9.5	2.0–2.5	–	13.0–14.5	<i>Moenkhausia oligolepis</i>	Pará	Azevedo et al. (1997)
<i>H. piaractus</i>	47.6–56.3	11.8–13.6	3.2–3.9	6.3–7.1	0.9–1.6	Yes	39.7–43.6	<i>Piaractus mesopotamicus</i>	São Paulo	Martins and Souza (1997)
<i>H. striolata</i>	39.3–45.6 ^a	14.4–17.0	4.9–5.9	5.1–7.0	1.1–1.3	No	23.6–29.8	<i>Serrasalmus striolatus</i>	Amazonas	Casal et al. (1997)
<i>H. leporinicola</i>	18.4–40.9	5.5–8.7	3.6–4.9	2.0–3.5	1.2–2.0	Yes	12.9–32.2	<i>Leporinus macrocephalus</i>	São Paulo	Martins et al. (1999a)
<i>H. curimata</i>	34.2–36.1	16.0–17.4	5.8–6.6	6.3 ± 0.3	1.2 ± 0.2	–	18.3–19.9	<i>Curimata inornata</i>	Pará	Azevedo and Matos (2002)
<i>H. astyanax</i>	47.8 ± 0.7	15.2 ± 0.8	5.7 ± 0.7	5.0 ± 0.1	1.5 ± 0.1	–	32.6 ± 1.1	<i>Astyanax keithi</i>	Pará	Vita et al. (2003)
<i>H. chydadea</i>	17.6–20.0	8.8–11.2	3.2–5.6	3.2–4.4	1.2–1.6	No	8.0–9.6	<i>Astyanax altiparanae</i>	São Paulo	Barassa et al. (2003)
<i>H. curvata</i>	41.7 ± 2.7	16.4 ± 0.8	4.7 ± 0.2	7.8 ± 0.3	1.4 ± 0.2	Yes	25.3 ± 2.3	<i>Serrasalmus spilopleura</i>	São Paulo	Barassa et al. (2003)
<i>H. friderici</i>	28.7–39.3	9.6–11.8	4.8–6.6	4.2–5.9	1.6–2.6	–	19.1–28.7	<i>Leporinus friderici</i>	Pará	Casal et al. (2003)
<i>H. garavelli</i>	46.6 ± 2.4 ^a	13.6 ± 1.0 ^a	4.0 ± 0.1 ^a	5.4 ± 0.4 ^a	1.2 ± 0.1 ^a	Yes	33.0 ± 2.6 ^a	<i>Cyphocharax nagelli</i>	São Paulo	Present work

L, length; *W*, width; P.C., polar capsule; I.V., presence or not of iodophilic vacuole.

^a Measurements of fresh spores.

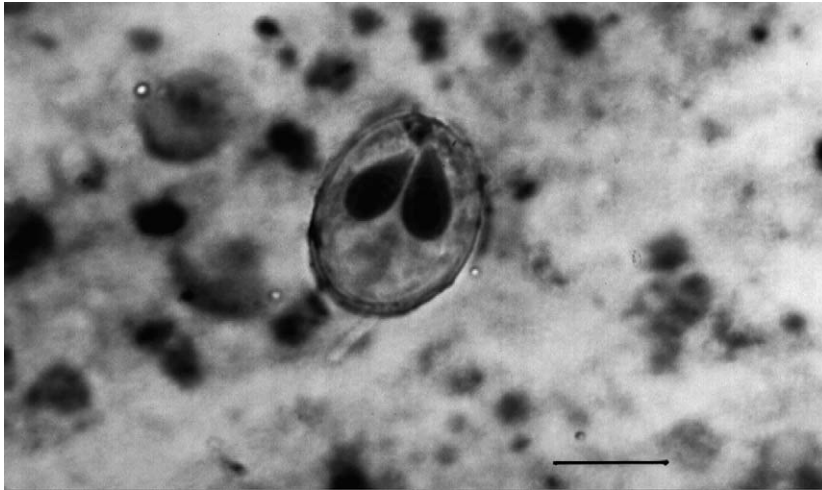


Fig. 4. Spore of *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp. from the gills of *Cyphocharax nagelli* collected in Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São Paulo, Brazil. Stained by Giemsa (bar = 10 μ m).

3.2. *Myxobolus peculiaris* n. sp.

The gill smears revealed a few number of myxozoan parasites of the genus *Myxobolus* Bütschli, 1882. The sporoplasm and an iodophilic vacuole were found in the interior of the spore stained by Lugol. The spore characteristics were: spore length 23.1 ± 0.1 (23.0–23.2); spore width 14.8 ± 0.4 (14.4–15.2); the two polar capsules are of equal size with 10.7 ± 0.1 (10.5–10.9) length and 4.4 ± 0.4 (4.0–4.8) width; the distance of anterior extremity of the spore to the polar capsule is 1.6 ± 0.0 (1.6). The polar filament was easily visible with the microscopic examination showing four to five coils in the polar capsule (Figs. 1 and 4).

Fresh spore characteristics: spore length 25.2 ± 0.15 (25.0–25.3) and spore width 15.4 ± 0.36 (15.0–15.5).

The name *M. peculiaris* n. sp. is proposed from the size of body spores compared to other descriptions. The comparison of fresh and fixed spores with those species already described on fish gills, in Brazil, is shown in Table 2.

Type host: *Cyphocharax nagelli* Steindachner, 1881
 Site of infection: gill filaments (prevalence 5%)
 Locality: Rio do Peixe Reservoir, São Paulo, Brazil
 Specimens deposited: FIOCRUZ,
 CHIOC no. 34987, fixed gills 34834

4. Discussion

Little information is found about myxozoan prevalence in fish collected from the nature or aquaculture in Brazil. Some data revealed prevalences of 20% *Henneguya pisciforme* in *Hyphessobrycon anisitsi* (Cordeiro et al., 1983/1984); 11.5% *Henneguya intracornea* in *Astyanax scabripinis* (Gioia et al., 1986); 55.5% *H. adherens* in *A. falcatus* (Azevedo and Matos, 1995); 6.7% *H. malabarica* in *Hoplias malabaricus* (Azevedo and Matos, 1996); 5.6–97.3% *H. piaractus* in cultivated *P. mesopotamicus*, *Colossoma macropomum* and the hybrid tambacu (*P. mesopotamicus* male \times *C. macropomum* female (Martins et al., 1999b); 28% *H. testicularis* in *Moenkhausia oligolepis* (Azevedo et al., 1997); 2.5–8.3% *M. absonus* and *M. porofilus* in *Pimelodus maculatus* and *Prochilodus lineatus* (Cellere et al., 2002; Adriano et al., 2002) and 88.3% *H. chydadea* in *Astyanax altiparanae* (Barassa et al., 2003). Studies with parasite fauna of bream (*Abramis brama*) a common fish of Central Europe (Lake Balaton and Kis-Balaton Reservoir) showed 38.0% of prevalence of *M. bramae* in the gills (Molnár and Székely, 1999). Later, Molnár (2000) reported prevalences of 11.5% of *M. margitae*, 14.0% of *M. alburni* and 15.5% of *M. obesus* in the gills and fin of bleak (*Alburnus alburnus*) fish collected from the River Danube and Lake

Table 2
Comparative measurements of species of *Myxobolus* described in fish, in Brazil

Species	Spore L	Spore W	P.C.L.	P.C.W.	Host	Locality	Author		
<i>M. noguchii</i>	13.6	8.5	6.8	2.2	<i>Serrasalmo spilopleura</i>	São Paulo	Pinto (1928a)		
<i>M. stokesi</i>	8.5	5.3	3.4	1.7	<i>Pimelodella</i> sp.	São Paulo	Pinto (1928a)		
<i>M. inaequalis</i>	5.2	3.3	–	–	<i>Piramutaba blochi</i> and <i>Synodontis schall</i>	South America	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. lutzi</i>	10.0	7.0	–	–	<i>Poecilia vivipara</i>	Rio de Janeiro	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. chondrophilus</i>	6.0	4.5	3.0	–	<i>Sardinella anchovina</i>	Rio de Janeiro	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. associates</i>	15.0	10.0	7.0	–	<i>Leporinus mormyrops</i>	Minas Gerais	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. cunhai</i>	9.0–11.0	4.0–6.0	–	–	<i>Pygocentris piraya</i> and <i>Pimelodus clarias</i>	Mato Grosso	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. pygocentris</i>	15.0–16.0	9.0–11.0	9.0–11.0	3.0–4.0	<i>Pygocentris piraya</i>	Mato Grosso	Pinto (1928b)		
<i>M. kudoii</i>	8.5–8.9	6.5–7.3	3.5–4.2	1.3–2.0	<i>Nematognatha</i> sp.	São Paulo	Guimaraes and Bergamin (1938) cited by Walliker (1969)		
<i>M. serrasalmi</i> ^a	12.5–18.0	7.0–10.0	6.0–9.0	2.5–4	<i>Serrasalmus rhombeus</i>	Amazonas	Walliker (1969)		
<i>M. serrasalmi</i> ^b	7.0–9.5	3.5–5.0	5.0–7.5	1.0–2.0	<i>Serrasalmus rhombeus</i>	Amazonas	Walliker (1969)		
<i>Myxobolus</i> sp.	9.0–11.0	5.0–6.5	5.0–6.0	1.5–2.0	<i>Serrasalmus</i> sp.	Amazonas	Walliker (1969)		
<i>Myxobolus</i> sp.	8.0–10.0	4.0–7.0	3.5–5.0	1.0–2.5	<i>Colossoma bidens</i>	Amazonas	Walliker (1969)		
<i>M. inaequus</i>	15.6–22.0	7.8–9.3	9.4–13.0	3.9–5.5	<i>Eigemannia virescens</i>	Brazil	Kent and Hoffman (1984)		
<i>Myxobolus</i> sp.	8.2	5.6	3.8	1.9	<i>Pimelodus maculatus</i>	São Paulo	Cordeiro et al. (1989)		
<i>M. colossomatis</i>	11.4–12.2	6.6–7.2	5.8–6.6	1.8–2.5	<i>Colossoma macropomum</i>	Ceará	Molnár and Békési (1993)		
<i>M. braziliensis</i>	10.2 ± 0.5	5.3 ± 0.3	5.3 ± 0.2	1.4 ± 0	<i>Bunocephalus coracoideus</i>	Pará	Casal et al. (1996)		
<i>M. macroplasmoidal</i>	10.5–12.0	8.0–9.0	4.0–5.0	2.0–3.0	<i>Salminus maxillosus</i>	São Paulo	Molnár et al. (1998)		
<i>M. colossomatis</i>	12.7–13.6	5.5–6.2	6.6–7.3	1.4–1.7	<i>Hybrid tambacu</i>	São Paulo	Martins et al. (1998)		
<i>M. colossomatis</i>	12.7–13.5	5.8–6.2	6.4–7.2	1.2–1.7	<i>Astyanax bimaculatus</i>	São Paulo	Martins et al. (1998)		
<i>M. absonus</i>	15.7 ± 1.5	10.2 ± 0.7	6.4 ± 0.7	4.2 ± 0.6	3.6 ± 0.5	2.5 ± 0.5	<i>Pimelodus maculatus</i>	São Paulo	Cellere et al. (2002)
<i>M. porofilus</i>	5.7 ± 0.3	4.8 ± 0.2	1.6 ± 0.1	1.1 ± 0.1	<i>Prochilodus lineatus</i>	São Paulo	Adriano et al. (2002)		
<i>M. maculatus</i>	19.7–23.0	7.9–9.5	11.8–13.8	3.0–3.6	<i>Metynnis maculatus</i>	Pará	Casal et al. (2002)		
<i>M. peculiaris</i>	25.2 ± 0.1 ^c	15.4 ± 0.4 ^c	10.7 ± 0.1	4.4 ± 0.4	<i>Cyphocharax nagelli</i>	São Paulo	Present work		

L, length; W, width; P.C., polar capsule.

^a Macrospores.

^b Microspores.

^c Measurements of fresh spores.

Balaton, Hungary. The prevalence observed in this work (63%) was higher than the majority observed in natural environment as stated above.

Comparing to the present species, considerable difference was observed in the spore length of *H. iheringi* (Pinto, 1928a), *H. occulta* (Pinto, 1928b), *H. cesarpintoi* (Guimarães, 1931), *H. santae* (Guimarães and Bergamin, 1934), *H. pisciforme* (Cordeiro et al., 1983/1984), *Henneguya* sp. (Azevedo and Matos, 1989; Cordeiro et al., 1989), *H. amazonica* (Rocha et al., 1992), *H. striolata* (Casal et al., 1997) and *H. leporinicola* (Martins et al., 1999a) (Table 1) and total length, polar capsule length and tail of *Henneguya chydadea* (Barassa et al., 2003). Similar measurements were found when compared to *H. travassosi* (Guimarães and Bergamin, 1933), *H. adherens*, *H. malabarica* and *H. piaractus* (Azevedo and Matos, 1995, 1996; Martins and Souza, 1997) but differ in the polar capsule length and tail length. Moreover, the cyst appearance was also different when compared to the others described species. Finally, the present description differs from others in the World such as *H. postexilis* (Minchew, 1977), *H. exilis* (Minchew, 1977), *H. shaharini* (Shariff, 1982), *H. mystusia* (Sarkar, 1985), *H. bopeleti* (Fomena and Bouix, 1987), *H. waltirensis* (Narasinhamurti and Kalavati, 1975) and *H. sebasta* (Moser and Love, 1975) in total length, spore length, polar capsule length and tail length. Once more, difference in measurements among length of the body spores, total length of the spore and length of the polar capsule were related by Pavanelli et al. (1998) fish from the Paraná River.

It can also be observed that *M. peculiaris* n. sp. differ in all measurements of species described from the other countries and localities (Table 2). *Myxobolus basilamellaris* (Lom and Molnár, 1983), *Myxobolus inaequus* (Kent and Hoffman, 1984) and *Myxobolus nuevoleonensis* (Segovia-Salinas et al., 1995) were different in size and morphology of the polar capsule when compared to *M. peculiaris*. In spite of similar shape of *M. cultus* described by Yokoyama et al. (1995); *Myxobolus macroplasmoidal* by Molnár et al. (1998), *Myxobolus magellanicus* by Flores and Viozzi (2001), *Myxobolus porofilus* (Adriano et al., 2002) spore length, spore width, polar capsule length and polar capsule width were smaller than the present description. Our specimens also differ from *Myxobolus maculatus*

described by Casal et al. (2002) and *Myxobolus absonus* described by Cellere et al. (2002) in spore shape, higher length and width and by having equal polar capsules. Comments on the size of the body spores of *M. peculiaris* n. sp. are needed. Until then we have not observed spores of *Myxobolus* with this size, characteristics confirmed by differential interference contrast optics. This fact is important because of the considerable difference in size of *M. peculiaris* n. sp. when compared to the other described species.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Gastão Reis and Heloisa P. Laterça for the correction of the manuscript translation.

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