

**A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *LAPWINGIA* (SINGH 1952) FROM
ACRIDOTHERES TRISTIS AT AURANGABAD, INDIA**

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The present communication deals with a new species of the genus *Lapwingia* (Singh 1952) i.e. *L. aurangabadensis* n.sp. It differentiates from the earlier known species of the genus with the characters like scolex quadrangular, number of testes 61-65, shape of ovary bilobed, aporal lobe large, ovary near middle of the segment, vagina thin tube parallel to the anterior margin, curved, ootype small in size, and round in shape, post-ovarian. Cirrus pouch starts from genital pore, run obliquely and open into ootype. The vitelline gland is oval. The uterus is reticulate.

The genus *Lapwingia* was erected by Singh in 1952 with type species *Lapwingia reticulosa* from *Labipluria malborica* at Lucknow, India. The present paper deals with the description of new species *L. aurangabadensis* n.sp. from *Acridotheres tristis* at Aurangabad (M.S.) India in the month of May, 2001.

The intestine of host *A. tristis* was collected from local market and cut open to examine for infection. The cestode collected were of medium size, flattened, fixed in 4% formalin, stained with Harris haematoxylin, dehydrated, cleared in xylene and mounted in DPX. Drawing were made with the aid of camera lucida. All measurements are in millimeters on the basis of 5 specimens.

***Lapwingia aurangabadensis* n.sp. (Fig. 1)**

Description : The scolex is small, oval and dome-shaped. It measures 0.330-0.335 in length and 0.340-0.364 in breadth. The rostellum is squarish in shape, measures 0.063-0.067 in length and 0.049-0.067 in breadth. Scolex bears four sucker, which are medium size and oval in shape.

The mature proglottids are medium in size. It measures about 0.79-0.568 in length and 1.364-1.721 in breadth. The testes are small in size, round in shape, 60-75 in number, encircling and overlapping the ovary and measure 0.015-0.023 in diameter. The cirrus pouch is medium in size, cylindrical in shape measures 0.4312-0.454 in length and 0.091-0.114 in breadth. Cirrus is long, measures about 0.652-0.659 in length and 0.015-0.030 in breadth. The vas deferens is thin, short, measures 0.235-0.242 in length and 0.008-0.015 in breadth. The ovary is bilobed, elongated. Each lobe bears 11-12 acini, which measures 0.091-0.273 in length and 1.198-1.212 in breadth. The isthmus is long measures 0.053-0.242 in length and 0.492-0.606 in breadth. The vagina is thin tube opens into ootype and measures 0.432-0.440 in length and 0.008-0.015 in breadth. The ootype is round in shape and measures about 0.030 in diameter. The vitelline gland is medium in size, oval in shape and triangular.

The gravid proglottids are big in size, almost oval and measures 0.189-0.197 in length and 1.288-1.478 in breadth.

The uterus is reticulate contains numerous eggs. The eggs are small in size, round in shape

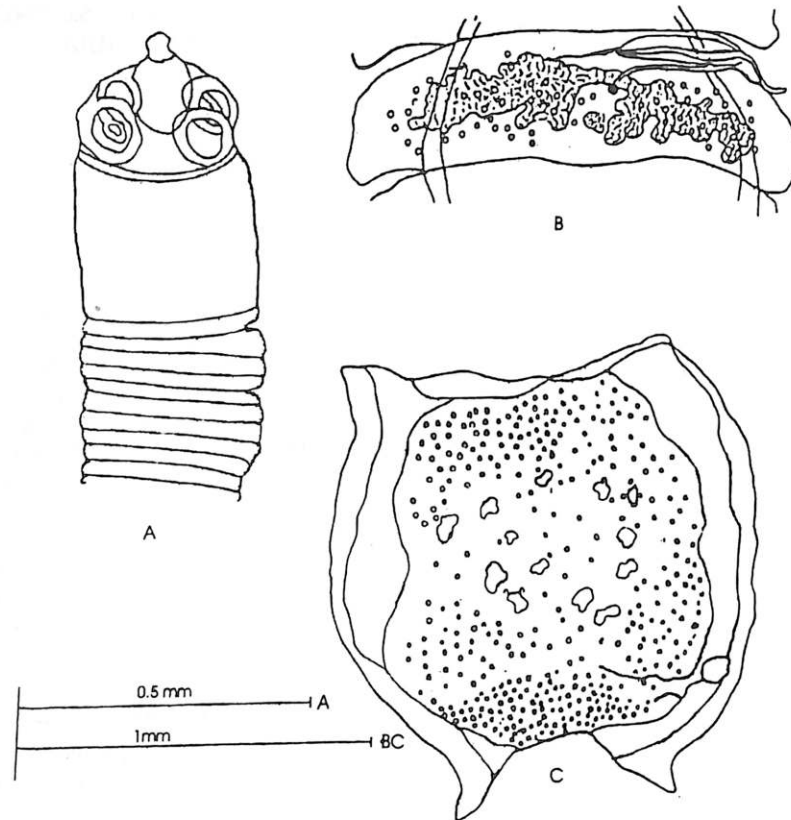


Fig. 1 : *Lapwingia aurangabadensis* n.sp. A. Scolex; B. Mature proglottid; C. Gravid proglottid.

measures 0.008-0.009 in length and 0.008-0.009 in breadth.

Remarks : In the present cestode the rostellar hooks are absent but in the same *L. malbarica* are 22 in number. Testes are 61-65 in number wherein same *L. malbarica* are 65-75 in number.

In the present cestode the ovarian lobes are unequal, aporal lobe is large whereas the same in *L. malbarica* are equal. In the present worm the ovary is near the middle of the segment, whereas the same in *L. malbarica* is the interior half of the segment.

The present worm differs from *L. capoovensis* n.sp. in having hooks 16, testes 90-95, genital opening at 1/4th from anterior margin of the proglottid.

The above noted characters necessitate the erection of new species. From these worms and hence the name *Lapwingia aurangabadensis* n.sp. is proposed after the locality.

Type species	:	<i>Lapwingia aurangabadensis</i> n.sp.
Host	:	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Habitat	:	Small intestine
Locality	:	Aurangabad (Maharashtra), India
Date of Collection	:	10 th May, 2001

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