

First record in Spain of *lyperosomum longicauda* (rud. 1809) Looss 1899, a digenean trematode of the intestine of *turdus philomelos*

Primera cita en España de *Lyperosomum longicauda* (Rud. 1809) Looss 1899, trematodo digénido del intestino de *Turdus philomelos*

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ABSTRACT

The presence of the species of Trematode *Lyperosomum longicauda* has been detected, in Spain, for the first time. Specimens were collected from *Turdus philomelos* captured in the Alpujarra region of Granada (Spain). The morphology of this species is briefly described.

Key words: *Lyperosomum longicauda*. Digenetic trematode, Dicrocoeliidae. *Turdus philomelos*. Spain.

RESUMEN

Se detecta, por primera vez en España, la presencia de trematodos de la especie *Lyperosomum longicauda*. Los ejemplares se recogieron de *Turdus philomelos* capturados en La Alpujarra (Granada, España). Se describe, brevemente, la morfología de esta especie de trematodo.

Palabras clave: *Lyperosomum longicauda*. Trematodo digenético. Dicrocoeliidae. *Turdus philomelos*. Spain.

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A study is being carried out on intestinal helminthic parasites in birds of the genus *Turdus* (*T. philomelos*, *T. iliacus*, *T. viscivorus* and *T. merula*) captured in Granada province between November 1994 and February 1995.

After dissecting each animal, the intestinal tract was obtained, which was

opened lengthways and all the mucous was then scraped off and placed in a Petri dish containing 0,90% saline solution. A platyhelminth was found, with the aid of a magnifying glass, in the intestine of a male *Turdus philomelos*, which, following normal fixation techniques, staining with boracic carmine, dehydration, rinsing and mounting, was identified as a trematode from the family Dicrocoeliidae, belonging to the genus *Lyperosomum* and species *Lyperosomum longicauda* (Rud. 1809) Looss 1899, (Yamaguti 1,2,3).

It has a dorsoventrally flattened shape, reaching a maximum width (1,3 mm) in the middle third of its body. It is 7 mm long, with a cuticle that is smooth in its front two thirds and slightly uneven in the final third of its body (Fig. 1).

Its oral sucker is located at its rear end in a subterminal position and has a diameter of 0,37 mm, notably smaller than its acetabulum (0,64 mm diameter) situated on the front third of its body.

The digestive tract begins at the mouth, situated at the bottom of the oral sucker, continues with a developed pharynx, short oesophagus and caeca that end in the second third of the body.

The male reproductive organs are situated towards the front of the body, immediately below the acetabulum. They consist of two large, almost spherical or oval testicles measuring 0,29 x 0,37 mm positioned diagonally and separated by a uterus. The cirrus sac is long, and situated below the intestinal bifurcation.

The ovary, with a diameter of 0,27 mm, is separated from the rear testicle by the uterus and is located roughly between the rear third and rear half of its body. The uterus occupies practically all of the final two thirds of the body, terminating in the female genital pore located alongside the male one. Vitellaria are clustered together, bisymmetrically placed on the lateral sides and situated behind the testicles along the middle third of the body.

After consulting the index catalogue of Iberian Animal Parasites (Cordero del Campillo et al. 1994 (4)), it has been possible to confirm that this species has not been cited in Spain neither as a parasite of *Turdus philomelos* nor any other host.

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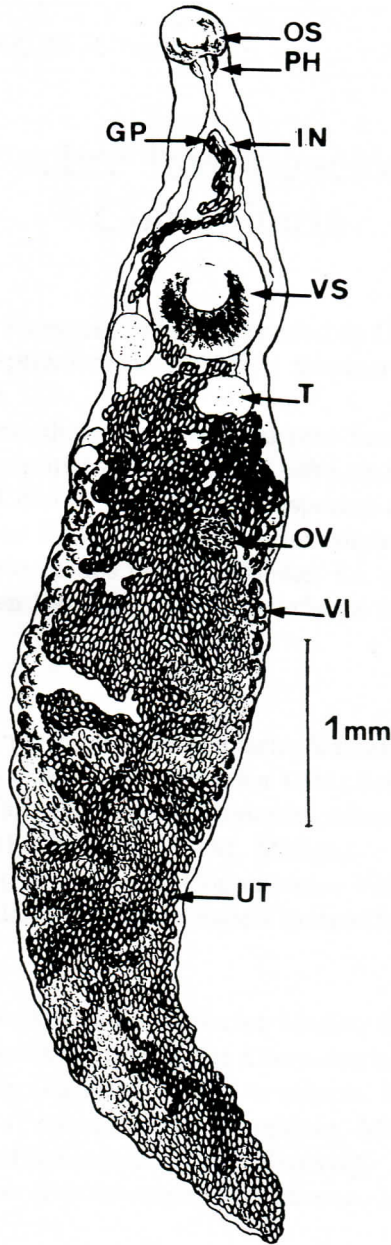


Fig. 1.—*Lyperosomum longicauda* in *Turdus philomelos*. OS, oral sucker; PH, pharynx; IN, intestine; GP, genital pore; VS, ventral sucker (acetabulum); T, testis; OV, ovary; VI, vitellarium (vitellary glands); UT, uterus with eggs.