

# New record of Larva of *Alibagascaris* sp. from fresh water fish host *Mystus vittatus* from the river Burhi Gandak, Akharaghat, Muzaffarpur, Bihar

G. D. Sharma & A. N. Jha

University Department of Zoology, B.R.A. Bihar University, Muzaffarpur.

## ABSTRACT

During the investigation made for endohelminth fauna of Siluroid fish host of Muzaffarpur, a larva of *Alibagascaris* sp. was collected from fresh water fish host *Mystus vittatus*. This is first report of the nematode larva from the fresh water fish host.

**KEY WORDS:** New record, Fresh water.

## INTRODUCTION:

The genus *Alibagascaris* was created by Kalyankar, 1970 for *Alibagascaris pseudosciaenae* having three (3) lips with dentigerous ridge and prominent tooth; interlabia absent; oesophagus simple; ventriculus and ventricular appendix present; intestinal caecum absent; male tail conical with tuft of spines; spicules equal and similar; gubernaculum present; caudal papillae numerous; female tail conical with spines at tip; vulva pre-equatorial with type species *A. pseudosciaenae* in *Protonibea diacanthus*; *Johnius dussumieri*; *Harpadon nehereus*. This worm is first time reported from India from marine fish hosts by Kalyankar (1970). During the present investigation one larva of *Alibagascaris* sp. was collected from the body cavity of fish host *Mystus vittatus*, a fresh water fish.

## DESCRIPTION:

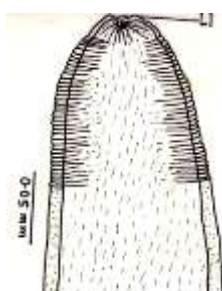
The larva of present collection has cylindrical body (Fig.), measuring 18.33 mm long while 0.767 mm wide (Table). Mouth is surrounded by 3 semicircular lips; Nerve ring lies at 0.221 mm from anterior end of the body. Vulva lies at 18.122 mm from anterior end of the body. Tail is straight, conical with spine, measuring 0.208 mm long.

**Table- Morphometric data for Larva of *Alibagascaris* sp. collected from *Mystus vittatus* during present investigation.**

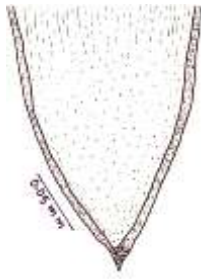
Sl. No.	Parts measured	Measurement are in mm
1.	Length of body	18.33
2.	Width of body	0.767
3.	Nerve ring from anterior end	0.221
4.	Vulva from anterior end	18.122
5.	Length of Tail	0.208

## DISCUSSION:

The present worm has semicircular lips 3, each with dentigerous ridge and prominent tooth; interlabia absent; oesophagus simple, ventriculus and ventricular appendix present; intestinal caecum absent and female tail conical with spine at tip; vulva pre-equatorial and hence assigned to monotypic genus created by Kalyankar (1971), the first report from marine fishes of India. In the present case the larva collected is the first report from fresh water fish host.



Anterior portion



Posterior Portion

Fig. Camera Lucida Diagram of *Alibagascaris* Larva

Abbreviations: - LI - LIP

**Host:** *Mystus vittatus*

**Habitat:** Body cavity

**Location:** River Burhi Gandak, Akharaghat, Muzaffarpur.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The authors are grateful to Head, University Deptt. of Zoology, B. R. A. Bihar University, Muzaffarpur for extending laboratory facilities to carry out the present investigation.

#### REFERENCES:

1. Kalyankar, S.D. (1970): On a new nematode, *Alibagascaris pseudosciaenae* gen et. sp. nov. (Ascarididea: Heterochilidae) from marine fishes of Alibag and Bombay. *Jap. J. Parasit.*, 19 (5): 549-551.
2. Sharma, G. D. (2012) Characterization of Endohelminth fauna of siluroid fish hosts of river Budhi Gandak, Akharaghat, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, Ph. D. Thesis, BRA Bihar University, Muzaffarpur.