

Parasitological examination. The type of ectoparasite and intensity of the infection was determined during the clinical examination. Crops swabs were inoculated at 37°C on a *Trichomonas* Medium (Biomed, Kraków, Poland) to isolate *Trichomonas* spp. They were incubated for 48 h at the same temperature and then examined on the slide. Growth of *Trichomonas* spp. was examined by light microscope. The flagellates could be seen due to its characteristic movement. Positive samples were confirmed with Giemsa stained smears.

The blood smears were stained following the Giemsa method and examined under magnification of 1000x (Oil immersion).

Out of the 40 eggs that were found in 11 goshawk nests, 33 chicks hatched and 28 nestlings survived at least until day 35-40.

The presence of *Trichomonas gallinae* was confirmed in 35% of the crops of chicks at the second visit and in all crops at the third visit. In 22.2% of the infected birds there were visible pathological changes with yellow wheatgrain-sized nodule formations on the oral cavity.

During the second nest control, the fly *Carnus hemapterus* (Diptera) were noticed on chicks in 5 nests. The intensity of invasion varied from 6 to 24 parasites on one bird. At the third visit this parasite was not found.

In the blood smears of 53.6% of the goshawk chicks *Leucocytozoon* spp. was found.

NEW DATA ON PARASITES OF MOLE *TALPA EUROPAEA* (MAMMALIA: INSECTIVORA) IN NORTHERN POLAND

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The knowledge of parasitic fauna of *Talpa europaea* is very incomplete. Although studies on various parasites of small mammals involved also a few moles, they were indeed very few because of their inaccessibility resulting from their mode of life and because of legal protection extended on those animals. Best known among mole parasites are fleas, of which 14 species were identified; most data were collected during studies on mole nests (e.g., Niewiadomska 1953; Skuratowicz 1954, 1966, 1972; Zwolski 1960; Bartkowska 1973, 1981; Haitlinger 1978). In addition, one record of a louse *Hoplopleura acanthopus*, most probably an accidental presence (Wegner 1956) and a number of Acari taxa, including *Ixodes ricinus*, *I. trianguliceps*, *Hirstionyssus talpae*, *H. carnifex*, *Eulaelaps stabularis*, *Eadiea brevihamata*, *Neotrombicula talmiensis*, *Labidophorus talpae* are known (Micherdzińska 1959; Zwolski 1960; Haitlinger 1976, 1981, 1983, 1988, 1989; Siuda 1993). Among the helminths, the trematode *Ityogonimus talpae*, the cestodes *Choanotaenia filametosus* and *Staphylocystis bacillaris* as well as 4 nematode species have been recorded (Serafiński 1928, Łukasiak 1939, Żarnowski 1955, Furmaga 1959).

The present study involved 11 moles collected from northern Poland: 7 from the Tricity area and single specimens from Pszczółki (near Tczew) and the vicinity of Zelewo (near Reda), Wyskok (near Kętrzyn), and Olsztyn-Kortowo. The materials, dead mole specimens found during field drips, were collected in 2000–2002.

The moles examined showed the presence of a total of 10 parasitic species. Their list includes insects belonging to the Aphaniptera – *Histrichopsylla talpae*, *Ctenophthalmus bisocodentatus*, *Paleopsylla kohauti*, as well as the Acari – *Ixodes trianguliceps*, *I. ricinus*, *Hirstionyssus carnifex*, *Eadiea brevihamata*, *Demodex talpae*. Internal parasites were represented by the nematode *Spirura talpae* and an eimerid protozoan.

Demodex talpae was recorded in Poland for the first time. This is a specific mole parasite, described in 1921 by Hirst and basically not mentioned later on, except in reviews (Lombardini 1941; Bukva 1993, 1995). This is most probably related to a poor knowledge both on the mole parasitic fauna and on follicle mites in wild mammals. It seems that the species should be redescribed according to the modern standards used for demodecid taxonomic descriptions. In the present study, the parasite was found in skin sections of 4 hosts and averaged 7 individuals per host. *H. carnifex* (*Echinonyssus carnifex*) was found to be abundant (76 individuals) on a single host; *E. brevihamata* was recorded in two specimens (2 and 3 individuals). Of ticks, an *I. trianguliceps* nymph and an *I. ricinus* larva were found. Relatively few fleas were found, due to the collection method (examination of dead moles) that was likely to result in their underrepresentation. *H. talpae* was found in two specimens (1 and 2 individuals); this largest European flea, although common, is never very abundant on a host. *C. bisocodentatus* was represented by 5 individuals found in 3 hosts, while *P. kohauti* (1 individuals) occurred in only one.

Stomachs of 2 hosts were found to house 43 nematodes belonging to *Spirura talpae*, a species occurring primarily in the Insectivora; one host harboured 38, while the other 5 individuals. In addition, the Eimeridae protozoans, not recorded earlier in Poland, were found in the liver of a single host.

THE PRELIMINARY REPORT CONCERNING OCCURRENCE OF *ENTAMOEBIA GINGIVALIS* IN PATIENTS WITH PERIODONTAL DISEASES HOSPITALIZED IN DEPARTMENT OF MAXILLO-FACIAL SURGERY MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF WROCLAW

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The aim of this study was to assess the frequency of occurrence of *E. gingivalis* in patients with periodontal diseases. The pathogenicity of this protozoan has not been examined thoroughly as not many researchers studied this problem yet. The opinions on pathogenicity of *E. gingivalis* vary. On one hand this protozoan is considered as a harmless commensal, on the other hand it is rated among pathogenes, which cause periodontitis and gingivitis.

Until now (from May to July 2002) we examined 38 patients hospitalized in Department of Maxillo-Facial Surgery Medical University of Wrocław. The presence of *E. gingivalis* was acknowledged in 24 individuals, which amounts to 63%.

The way of detecting of *E. gingivalis* was based on making microscopic preparations using a special liquid, which extends the vitality of Protozoa. Next these specimens were examined in a contrast-phase microscope. *E. gingivalis* was identified by characteristic movement by pseudopodia. The protozoans present in diagnostic material (swabs taken from gums and dental pockets) were photographed (lens x 40, eyepiece x 10).

The research which is going to follow will be based on the correlation between occurrence of *E. gingivalis* and types of periodontal diseases, age, sex and treatment.

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