

RECORDS OF NEW HOST AND LOCALITY FOR *PLAGIORCHIS* (*METAPLAGIORCHIS*) *HIMALAYAI* (JORDAN, 1930) AND NEW LOCATION FOR *PARABASCUS MACRORCHIS* (GOGATE, 1939) (TREMATODA : DIGENEA)

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ABSTRACT

*Plagiorchis* (*Metaplagiorchis*) *himalayai* (Jordan, 1930) has been reported from Patna (Bihar, India) and *Parabascus macrorchis* (Gogate, 1939) from gall bladder. Both species were collected from *Calotes versicolor* Daud.

INTRODUCTION

While studying the trematode parasites of lizards of Patna, we came across one specimen of *Plagiorchis* (*metaplagiorchis*) *himalayai* (Jordan, 1930) which proved to be a new host and locality record for this species. *Parabascus macrorchis* (Gogate, 1939) was found from the gall bladder of *Calotes versicolor* which is a new location record.

***Plagiorchis* (*Metaplagiorchis*) *himalayai*  
(Jordan, 1930)**

Jordan (1930) provided an abstract description of *Lepoderma himalayai*. Mehra (1937) furnished the detailed account of this species. The genus *Lepoderma* being synonym of *Plagiorchis*, *L. himalayai* became *P. himalayai*. This species was assigned to the subgenus *Plagiorchis* by Skrjabin & Antipin (1958). Timofeeva (1962) proposed the genus *Metaplagiorchis* for species having Caeca and/or vitellaria not reaching posterior extremity; genitalpore submedian, immediately preacetabular; Cirrus pouch curving round acetabulum

on its right side, containing elongate or tubular, sometimes moniliform seminal vesicle. Yamaguti (1971) did not consider above mentioned characters sufficient to justify a separate genus and relegated *Metaplagiorchis* to subgeneric rank.

Jordan (1930) recorded *Plagiorchis* (*M.*) *himalayai* from *Bufo latastii* from Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir State). Kaw (1950) collected it from the intestine of *Bufo viridis* from a number of places in Jammu and Kashmir State.

Here *Plagiorchis* (*Metaplagiorchis*) *himalayai* is recorded from the intestine of *Calotes versicolor* at Patna (Bihar) in Gangetic Plains of India. We have examined about 51 garden lizards and have been able to collect only one trematode of this species. Our specimen closely resembles the figure and description of this species given by Mehra (1937) but differs from it in the vitelline follicles reaching anteriorly the level of anterior margin of the ventral sucker and the posterior coalescence of vitellaria not so well pronounced. Ovary

is clearly behind the ventral sucker. Skrjabin and Antipin (1958 pg. 124 and 127) have mentioned that Kaw (1950) collected his species from *Rana viridis* which appears to be an error for *Bufo viridis* (Kaw 1950, p. 70).

### **Parabascus macrorchis** (Gogate, 1939)

Goate (1939) erected the genus *Palitrema* for *P. microrchis* from the intestine of *Calotes versicolor* and *Hemidactylus brooki* from Rangoon. Baugh (1956) accepted the validity of the genus *Palitrema*. Yamaguti (1958) considered *Palitrema* congeneric with *Postorchigenes* Tubangui, 1928. Odening (1969) considered *P. macrorchis* Gogate, 1939; *P. majeedi* Sinha & Hakim, 1967; and *P. indica* Agrawal, 1968 as synonyms of *Postorchigenes ovatus* Tubangui, 1928. Skrjabin (1970) treated *Palitrema*, *Postorchigenes*, *Parabascooides*, *Limatuloides* in part and *Czosnowia* synonym of *Parabascus*. Recently Ghosh (1977) has agreed with Skrjabin (1970) on the question of synonyms of the genus *Parabascus* but recognised *Parabascus macrorchis* (Gogate, 1939) as a distinct species. During routine collection of trematode parasites at Patna, 40 specimens belonging to *Parabascus macrorchis* were collected from the intestine but in a case, one example was collected from gall bladder of *Calotes versicolor*. So far all the specimens referable to the genus *Parabascus* are known from intestine of their hosts.

Our material shows great variation in different characters. Some specimens resemble *P. macrorchis* and others *P. ovatus*. Intraspecific variation in the present material and the question of synonymy of various species will be dealt with separately.

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