Infection by larval cestodies of the genus paradilepis in cultured Oreochromis niloticus (L.)

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Abstract

Helminth infection of cultured Oreochromis niloticus was observed in two farms in Abeokuta, Ogun State and Jos, Plateau State. The parasite was identified as the larva of a cestode of the genus Paradilepis. Eggs and larvae were found under the scales and strongly and deeply embedded in fish body. Larvae measured between 5-6 mm in length and 2.5 – 3.0 mm in diameter while eggs measured 2.5 – 30 mm in diameter. Adults had the highest percentage infection (80%) in both Ogun and Plateau States, while sub-adults and juveniles had 60.5% infection respectively. The percentage infection in both farms was 55.6%. The parasite burden in Plateau State was higher (64%) than in Ogun State (35.9%).

Key words:

Infection, Cestodes, Oreochromis niloticus