

RECORDS OF HELMINTHS ISOLATED FROM GREEN TURTLES (*Chelonia mydas*) IN NORTHEAST BRAZIL

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Sea turtles play a fundamental role in the conservation of marine ecosystems, serving as bioindicators of ocean health. Of the seven known species, five occur in Brazil, including the green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*, Linnaeus, 1758). The study of endoparasites in these animals is essential for assessing population and environmental health, indicating the presence of emerging diseases with potential zoonotic risks, and contributing to species conservation. This study utilized publicly available data from the Aquatic Biota Monitoring Information System (SIMBA). SIMBA is a platform containing data on marine tetrapod strandings systematically recorded by the Beach Monitoring Project (PMP), which was developed to meet the requirements of federal environmental licensing conducted by IBAMA for offshore oil and natural gas exploration and production activities by PETROBRAS. Between 22/10/2019 and 18/09/2024, 1470 strandings of green turtles were recorded between Conde (BA) and Pontal do Peba (AL). Of these, 187 individuals underwent pathological examinations, with 39 (20,85%) showing endoparasite infections, primarily affecting the intestines (41,02%) and kidneys (30,7%). Thirty samples from 23 animals were subjected to identification tests, resulting in the isolation of 10 different parasites. Among the 23 animals, 13 (56,52%) were infected with *Neoctangium travassosi*; 4 (17,39%) with *Learedius learedi*; 3 (12,04%) with *Cricocephalus albus*; 3 (12,04%) with *Pyelosomum cochlear*; 2 (8,69%) with *Metacetabulum invaginatum*; 2 (8,69%) with parasites belonging to the family *Hapalotrematidae*; 1 (4,34%) with *Deuterobaris intestinalis*; 1 (4,34%) with *Pleurogonius longiusculus*; 1 (4,34%) with *Schizamphistomum scleroporum*; and 1 (4,34%) with a parasite belonging to the order *Trypanorhyncha*. Sea turtles exhibit a diverse helminth fauna, and the observed results enhance the understanding of parasitism in these animals and their geographical distribution.

Keywords: Testudines, Parasitism, Stranding.