NEW DATA ON DACTYLOGYRIDAE PARASITES OF THE "TAMBATINGA" (*Colossoma macropomum* X *Piaractus brachypomus*) FROM A FISH FARM LOCATED IN RIO BRANCO, STATE OF ACRE, BRAZIL

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Abstract

The "tambatinga" (♀ *Colossoma macropomum* x ♂ *Piaractus brachypomus*) stands out as an important fishery resource in Brazil. This species is a hybrid that exhibits great resistance to low water temperatures when compared to the parental species (*C. macropomum*), and its organoleptic characteristics make it well accepted for cultivation and consumption. For this reason, it is the third most cultivated species in Brazilian fish farms. Cultivated species are frequently infected by helminths, particularly by monopisthocotylans belonging to the family Dactylogyridae. This survey aimed at identifying species of Dactylogyridae parasites of the "tambatinga" (*Colossoma macropomum* x *Piaractus brachypomus*) from a fish farm in the state of Acre, Brazil. Five specimens of the "tambatinga" were previously necropsied, the gills were placed in vials with ethanol 70% and sent to the "Laboratório de Helmintos Parasitos de Peixes, Instituto Oswaldo Cruz, FIOCRUZ", Rio de Janeiro. Gills were placed in Petri's dishes and examined under a dissecting microscope for dactylogyrids. The specimens recovered were mounted in Hoyer's medium and analysed in a light microscope with phase contrast. Four species of Dactylogyridae have been identified so far: *Anacanthorus spatulatus* Kritsky, Thatcher & Kayton, 1979, *Anacanthorus penilabiatus* Boeger, Husak & Martins, 1995, *Mymarothecium boegeri* Cohen & Kohn, 2005, and *Mymarothecium viatorum* Boeger, Piasecki & Sobecka, 1992. The four dactylogyrid species found in the present study are reported for the first time in the Acre State. In addition, *A. penilabiatus* and *M. viatorum* are reported for the first time parasitising the "tambatinga", contributing to the knowledge of the host-parasite relationships. These preliminary results indicate that further studies on the diversity of dactylogyrid species associated with commercially important fishes are necessary to investigate the impact of these parasites on the vital conditions of the cultivated hosts.

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