

**MICRURUS CORALINUS** (Coral Snake). **ENDOPARASITES.** Travassos (1917. Mem. Inst. Osw. Cruz 9:5–62) first reported *Oligacanthorhynchus spira* cystacanths in snakes. Travassos (*op. cit.*) found larvae attached to the peritoneum of many snakes including *Boa*, *Clelia*, *Erythrolamprus*, *Liophis*, *Lystrophis*, *Mastigodryas*, *Philodryas*, *Waglerophis*, *Bothrops*, and a snake possibly misidentified as *Dipsadomorphus dendrophilus*. Adults were also found in the intestines of birds including *Cathartes*, *Coragyps*, *Sarcoramphus*, and *Buteogallus*. This note reports the first occurrence of cystacanths of *O. spira* in *Micrurus corallinus* (Elapidae).

Snakes (N = 89) were collected in São Paulo state, southeastern Brazil, fixed in 10% formalin and preserved in the collection of Instituto Butantan (São Paulo, SP). They were dissected, and the cystacanths were extracted and dehydrated in ethyl alcohol and gradient cleared in methyl salicylate, a procedure modified from Torrej and Puga (1996. Mem. Inst. Osw. Cruz 91:717–719). All larvae of *O. spira* were found in the peritoneum of the snakes. The prevalence of cystacanths was 28.08% and the mean intensity of infection was 24.92 larvae/snake ( $\pm 1.01$  SD), ranging from 1 to 144 larvae/snake.

*Micrurus corallinus* feed mainly on amphisbaenians, a few elongate lizards, caecilians, and other snakes (Marques and Sazima 1997. Herpetol. Nat. Hist. 5:88–93), whereas cystacanths often occur in invertebrates (Schmidt and Roberts 1996. Foundations of Parasitology, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. W. C. Brown Publ., Dubuque, 659 pp.). We suspect that *M. corallinus* become infected with cystacanths by consuming insectivorous prey.

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