

A NEW LOCALITY AND A NEW HOST RECORD FOR
TRICHODINA DISCOIDEA DAVIS, 1947 IN
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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ABSTRACT.—*Trichodina discoidea* is reported from *Lepomis cyanellus* in Jackson County Illinois. This report marks the occurrence of this peritrich on a new host and in a new geographic area. *T. discoidea* was also found on *L. macrochirus* and *Ictalurus punctatus* in Jackson County.

Davis (1947) named *T. discoidea* from material collected at Kearneysville, West Virginia. At that location *T. discoidea* was found on the gills of the bluegill, *Lepomis macrochirus*, the black crappie, *Pomoxis sparoides*, and the rock bass, *Ambloplites rupestris*. Davis also noted the occurrence of *T. discoidea* on the gills of the channel catfish, *Ictalurus punctatus* taken from the Mississippi River near Fairport, Iowa.

From July-December, 1970, fish from a commercial hatchery near Gorham, Jackson County, Illinois were collected by seining and transported to the laboratory alive for examination. Captive fish were segregated into species and carried in 19 l. plastic bags containing 3-4 l. of oxygenated well water. All specimens were examined for ectoparasites within 36 hr. Before examination the fish were double pithed, the opercula, fins, tail, and body were placed in separate dishes of distilled water, and were observed under stereomicroscope at 30-60X. Trichodinids were prepared for silver impregnation by smearing the host material on a clean glass slide. The slides were air dried and stained after the method of Lom (1970). Infected gills were also sectioned and stained with hematoxylin and eosin

after Humason (1967). Identification and biometric characteristics followed the criteria of Lom (1958). Microscopy was with a Zeiss photomicroscope.

During the study the occurrence and incidence of *T. discoidea* was noted on 17.6% of 17 *L. macrochirus*, 18.1% of 2 *L. cyanellus*, and 21.0% of 93 *I. punctatus*. The parasite occurred only on the gills of these hosts. This is the first report of *T. discoidea* from southern Illinois, and the first time the parasite has been reported from the green sunfish, *L. cyanellus*.

T. discoidea has now been reported from four centrarchids as well as the channel catfish which would seem to indicate a rather broad host specificity. Presently additional studies into the parasite's host specificity, host induced variation, and biology are underway.

LITERATURE CITED

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