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Infection with zoonotic parasites in Barbus grypus in Karkheh River

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Summary:

Objective: Barbus grypus is one of the native and valuable fishes in west and south west of Iran, particularly in Khuzestan Province. Recently, Iranian Fisheries Company had added the fish to the collections of training pool fishes. Zoonotic parasites have special importance at the public health point of view. The aim of this study was to investigate the occurrence and abundance of zoonotic parasites in Barbus grypus inhabiting in Karkheh River.

Method & Materials: In this research, 4 fish which were alive or recently caught from Karkheh River, were transferred fresh to the Department of Aquatic Health and Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ahvaz University. Fish were examined by standard methods. Helminthies of gastrointestinal tract and abdomen were collected and fixed in 70% alcohol containing 5% glycerin. Nematodes were examined under the microscope and identified to genus level.

Results & Conclusion: Three zoonotic nematodes were found, including Anisakis (1%), Capillaria (0%), and Contracaecum (74.0%). Anisakis is reported for the first time from Barbus grypus. Given the fact that some people in Khuzestan believe that consuming small fresh fish can be useful for the treatment of icterus, it is important that the physicians pay attention to the possibility of the occurrence of anisakidosis in local people, particularly those with symptoms such as colic and phlegm enteritis. It is necessary to ensure that the fish is cooked completely. Also use of the fish meat as soda should be prohibited.

Keywords:

Barbus grypus, nematoda, zoonoses, Anisakis, Capillaria, Contracaecum, Khuzestan

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