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Bopyrid isopods parasitizing on the cultured fresh water prawn, *Macrobrachium malcolmsonii* in South India (Article)Gopalakrishnan, A.^a, Raja, K.^a, Trilles, J.P.^b, Rajkumar, M.^c, Rahman, M.M.^{cd}, Saravanakumar, A.^a^a Faculty of Marine Sciences, Centre of Advanced Study in Marine Biology, Annamalai University, Parangipettai, Tamilnadu, India^b UMR 5119 Ecosym (CNRS-UM2-IRD-UM1-IFREMER), Equipe Adaptation Ecophysiologique et Ontogenese, Universite Montpellier 2, CC. 092, Place E. Bataillon, Montpellier Cedex 05, France^c Inocem Research Station, International Islamic University Malaysia, Jalan Sultan Ahmad Shah, Bandar Indera Mahkota, Kuantan, Pahang, Malaysia

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Abstract

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The **bopyrid isopods** are common in wild **Macrobrachium** spp. but not common in aquaculture condition. This is the first study that reports the **parasitizing of bopyrid isopods** on the **cultured M. malcolmsonii**. **Bopyrid** isopod (*Probopyrus buitendijki*) was identified in the branchial cavities of the **fresh water prawn, M. malcolmsonii** from grow-out culture pond at Kuriyamangalam, **India**. **Macrobrachium malcolmsonii** is a new host for *P. buitendijki*. A total of 1323 **M. malcolmsonii** were checked for this study. The overall prevalence of the parasitic infestation was reached 46.2 %. The parasitic infection was higher in female (83 %) than in male (3.4 %). Highest prevalence of infestation was found in the median size group (7–8 cm) (58.7 %). Infected females were not berried unlike uninfected prawns. The parasites cause infertility and does not found any organ deformities due to the infestation. The parasite was inversely attached in the gill chamber with no lesion on the gill but the infected branchial chamber became bulged. © 2016, Indian Society for Parasitology.

Author keywords

Bopyrid isopod; Fresh water prawn; Macrobrachium malcolmsonii; Prevalence; Probopyrus buitendijki

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