



Diffusion material only – Do not cite

Original Scientific Photographs

BY FABRÍCIO H. ODA¹, MARIANA F. FELISMINO², LUIZA P. C. LOPES³ &
THIAGO M. ODA⁴

¹Universidade Federal de Goiás - UFG, Laboratório de Comportamento Animal, Instituto de Ciências Biológicas, Campus Samambaia. Conjunto Itatiaia, 74000-970. C.P. 131. Goiânia, GO, Brazil. E-mail: fabricio_oda@hotmail.com

²Universidade Estadual de Maringá - UEM. Departamento de Biologia Celular e Genética, Av. Colombo 5790, Bloco G90, 87020-900, Maringá, PR, Brazil. E-mail: mariferrari_82@hotmail.com

³Programa de Pós-graduação em Ecologia de Ambientes Aquáticos Continentais, UEM. E-mail: lpclopes@hotmail.com

⁴Especialização em Gestão Ambiental pelas Faculdades Integradas de Paranaíba - FIPAR. Rua Maclino de Queiroz, 270, B. Jardim Redentora, 79500-000, Paranaíba, MS, Brazil. E-mail: thiago_oda@hotmail.com



Copepods are the most numerous among parasitic crustaceans and may be the most common group of fish parasites. They have been found parasitizing skin, gills, eyes, fins and even inside the mouth of fishes, near the palate and nostrils (Eiras 1994). Among the well known copepods in Brazil, the most observed species is the exotic *Lernaea cyprinacea* (Linnaeus, 1758), introduced during the 80's via the common carp *Cyprinus carpio* Linnaeus, 1758, at the northeast area, spreading to southeastern, mid-west and reaching the southern regions of Brazil (Fortes *et al.* 1998). The guppy *Poecilia reticulata* Peters, 1859 is an ovoviviparous freshwater fish of low waters native to northern South America and the Antilles (Rodríguez 1997). On December 13th, 2008 at 1 pm, in an artificial small tank (1 m²) at the Araçatuba city (21°12'50" S; 50°25'48" W), State of São Paulo, Brazil, two adult specimens of *Poecilia reticulata* (male and female, Fig. 1a, b) were observed being parasitized by the anchor worm *L. cyprinacea*. *Lernaea cyprinacea* is an important parasite to fish farming so much economically, due to the fish's bad appearance for commerce (after parasitized), as ecologically, since when introduced in the environment the parasite can cause mortality of other fishes due to secondary infections caused by fungi and bacteria (Querol *et al.* 2005). Pictures characteristics: Digital Machine model Sony DSC-R1, 3 Mp resolution (72 dpi), diaphragm aperture 4.8, time of exposition 1/125; Speed ISO-160.

References

- Eiras, J. C. 1994. **Elementos de Ictioparasitologia**. Porto, Fundação Engenheiro Antônio de Almeida, 339 p.
- Fortes, E., Hoffmann, R. P. & Scariot, J. 1998. *Lernaea cyprinacea* (Linnaeus, 1758) (Crustacea, Copepoda) parasitando peixes de água doce da Grande Porto Alegre, RS, Brasil. **Revista Brasileira de Medicina Veterinária**, (20): 64-65.
- Querol, M. V. M., Querol, E., Pessano, E. F. C. & Azevedo, C. L. O. 2005. Ocorrência da carpa húngara, *Cyprinus carpio* (Linnaeus, 1758) e disseminação parasitária, no Arroio Felizardo, Bacia do médio Uruguai, Uruguaiana, RS, Brasil. **Biodiversidade Pampeana**. 3: 21-23.
- Rodríguez, C. M. 1997. Phylogenetic analysis of the tribe Poeciliini (Cyprinodontiformes: Poeciliidae). **Copeia**, 4:663-679.

This picture may be used for academic or personal purposes but always accompanied by the author's information (copyright). To obtain permission for commercial use or for any other non-personal, non-academic use, or to inquire about reprints, fees, and licensing, please contact the author via e-mail.