

Proposal of *Parasitaphelenchus dongguanensis* (Fang, Zhao & Zhuo, 2002) n. comb. (Nematoda: Parasitaphelenchidae)

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Abstract

Parasitaphelenchus dongguanensis (Fang, Zhao & Zhuo, 2002) n. comb. is proposed for *Bursaphelenchus dongguanensis* Fang, Zhao & Zhuo, 2002. Females are long (880–1720 μm) and slender ($a=64$ –104), and have a short, conoid, mucronate tail. The vulva is located towards the posterior ($V=86$ –92), and a vulval flap is absent. Oocytes are arranged in several rows and in a single row posteriorly. A long postuterine sac is present (34–119 μm). Males are 880 to 1230 μm long, and slender ($a=84$ –134). The tail is short ($c=48$ –102), straight, and bears three pairs of post-cloacal papillae. A small bursa envelops the distal portion of the tail. Spicules are small (8–13 μm), with a narrow, pointed rostrum and a well-developed, rounded apex. Spermatocytes are arranged in several rows. The stylet is 11 to 13 μm long and has small basal knobs. The cuticle bears fine, transverse striae, and there are four incisures in the lateral field.

Key words: Nematoda, Parasitaphelenchidae, *Parasitaphelenchus dongguanensis*, *Bursaphelenchus dongguanensis*, *Pinus massoniana*, new combination, taxonomy

Introduction

Bursaphelenchus dongguanensis Fang, Zhao & Zhuo, 2002 was described from China in wood of *Pinus massoniana* Lamb. The taxon is unusual in that it exhibits a unique combination of characters found in all *Parasitaphelenchus* species: slender body ($a>29$), very short tail ($c>41$), very posterior vulva ($V>80$), and lack of curvature of the male tail. To the author's best knowledge, no *Bursaphelenchus* species exhibits all four of these characters (cf. Tarjan & Baeza Aragon, 1982; Yin *et al.*, 1988; Braasch, 2001). Because similarities between this taxon and *Parasitaphelenchus* were not addressed in the original description, the aim of this paper is to reappraise the taxonomic status of *B. dongguanensis*.