

Revision of *Capsaloides* (Monogenea: Capsalidae) with a redescription of *C. magnaspinosus* Price, 1939 from the nasal tissue of *Tetrapterus audax* (Istiophoridae) collected off Nelson Bay, New South Wales, Australia

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Abstract

Capsaloides magnaspinosus (Monogenea: Capsalidae) is redescribed from whole mounts and scanning electron micrographs of material collected from the nasal tissue of the striped marlin, *Tetrapterus audax* (Philippe, 1887), off Nelson Bay, New South Wales, Australia. This represents a new host and locality record for this capsalid species. *Capsaloides* is revised based on the examination of type-material and published descriptions. We consider 7 of the 10 previously described species to be valid. Some characters, such as depth of the posterior notch of the body, which were used previously to discriminate between species of *Capsaloides*, appear to be questionable. Careful examination of type-material has led us to propose that *C. istiophori*, *C. marielenae* and *C. tetrapteri* are synonyms of *C. perugiai*. The possibility that *C. cristatus* and *C. hoffmannae* are synonymous with *C. sinuatus* is also discussed.

Key words: Monogenea, Capsalidae, Capsalinae, *Capsaloides magnaspinosus*, Istiophoridae, marlin, Australia

Introduction

Members of the Capsalinae Baird, 1853 (Capsalidae) are generally large monogeneans that parasitise mostly the skin and gills of highly-prized game fish species such as marlin and tuna. The history of the Capsalinae spans more than 2 centuries with one-third of the species being described in the 1800s. The Capsalinae comprises approximately 60 species and, following the classification of Egorova (1989), 5 genera: *Caballerocotyla* Price,