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**Checklist of Monogenea parasites of freshwater and marine fishes,
amphibians and reptiles from Mexico, Central America and
Caribbean**

ANNA KOHN, SIMONE C. COHEN & GUILLERMO SALGADO-MALDONADO



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Abstract

Two hundred and ten species from Mexico, 155 from the Caribbean (Bahamas, Bermuda, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Trinidad) and 63 from Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama) with hosts and geographical distribution are listed in this contribution, bringing up to date the knowledge of Latin America monogenean fauna. A host parasite list with the monogenean species is presented.

Key words: Monogenea, Mexico, Central America, Caribbean, freshwater and marine fishes, amphibians, reptiles

Introduction

Mexico is bordered by the United States to the north, Belize and Guatemala to the southeast, the Gulf of California to the west and the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea to the east. Mexico is positioned in the transition area between the Neotropical and Nearctic biogeographic regions. This explains the diversity and endemism characteristics of its biota. Central America is the region located between the southern border of Mexico and the northwest border of Colombia, in South America. It consists of several countries and Monogenea are recorded in most of them: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama. The Caribbean Sea is a tropical body of water adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean and southeast of the Gulf of Mexico. Monogenean species were studied in the Bahamas, Bermuda, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, and Trinidad.

The first species of Monogenea from these regions were *Ancyrocotyle bartschii* from Puerto Rico and *Ancyrocephalus atherinae*, the only species from Dominican Republic, described in 1934 by Price, followed by *Capsala poyei* by Perez-Vigueras from Cuba in 1935. From 1938 on, several authors such as Caballero y Caballero, Bravo-Hollis, Meserve and Price increased the study of this group of parasites.

Monogenea species compilations for Tropical America have been done by Lamothe-Argumedo & Jaimes-Cruz (1982) and Thatcher (1991) and for South America more recently, by Kohn & Cohen (1998) and Kohn & Paiva (2000). In order to extend our knowledge to all of Latin America, a checklist of this class of parasites recorded in Mexico, Central America and Caribbean is presented.

We have attempted to include in one paper all published reports based on original records and some published in journals not easily available.

Material and methods

The species of Monogenea are presented in alphabetical order according to taxa followed