THE OCCURRENCE OF *LEMURICOLA*
(NEMATODA: OXYURINAE) IN MALAYA:
WITH THE DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES

By

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With 10 Figures in the Text

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Specimens of an oxyurid nematode were collected from a female *Nycticebus coucang* (Institute for Medical Research Medical Zoology Host Number R. 63.757) which appear to represent a previously undescribed species. The specimens are remarkable in being clearly congeneric with a species, described as *Lemuricola contagiosus* gen. et sp. nov. by CHABAUD and PETTER, 1959, obtained from a Madagascar Lemur (*Cheirogaleus major*). A further result of their examination is to show the poor condition of the type series of *Enterobius* (*Protenterobius*) *nycticebi* BAYLIS, 1928 as a result of which the sub-genus *Protenterobius* INGLIS, 1961 is considered a junior subjective synonym of *Lemuricola* CHABAUD and PETTER, 1959. The name proposed for the Malayan species is:

*Lemuricola malayensis* nov. sp.

Material studied. 20 + ♂♂, 20 ♀♀, 1 fourth-stage male larva (1 ♂ selected as holotype) from *Nycticebus coucang*, "intestine", Bukit Lanjan, Selangor State, Federation of Malaya, and deposited in the British Museum (Natural History), under the registration numbers 1963, 343—354. Other specimens are deposited in the Division of Parasitology, San Francisco Medical Center, University of California. Measurements (in mm).

Males. (3 ♂♂ and the fourth-stage male larva were measured. The larval measurements are given first.)

Body length: 1.82 (larva); 2.08; 2.57; 2.92. Body breadth: 0.093; 0.91; 0.098; 0.096. Oesophagus length: 0.41; 0.43; 0.47; 0.49. Distance of nerve ring from anterior end of body: 0.199; 0.121; 0.128; 0.133. Distance of excretory pore from anterior end of body: 0.66; 0.69; 0.71; 0.74. Diameter of head: 0.028; 0.030; 0.034; 0.038. Length of tail: 0.053; 0.041; 0.043; 0.054. Length of spicule: 0.084; 0.084; 0.096; 0.087.

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Females. Body length: 4.1; 5.3; 5.4. Body breadth: 0.33; 0.32; 0.34. Oesophagus length: 0.53; 0.60; 0.54. Distance of nerve ring from anterior end of body: 0.126; 0.156; 0.126. Distance of excretory pore from anterior end of body: 0.84; 1.08; 0.96. Diameter of head: 0.048; 0.063; 0.056. Length of tail: 1.00; 1.16; 1.13. Distance of vulva from anterior end of body: 1.30; 1.56; 1.68. The eggs are 0.069—0.075×0.029—0.032 mm in size.

Morphology. The cephalic vesicle is small. The mouth opening is bounded by three thin, small lip-lobes and leads into a shallow buccal cavity. The anterior end of the oesophagus is slightly cupped with three cuticularized tooth-like structures arising from each sector of the oesophagus (Fig. 1). The cephalic papillae are prominent and appear to be double (Fig. 2). At least two distinct nerves can be seen leading into each papilla of which the more lateral component is much more prominent than the more dorsal or ventral. No inner papillae have been seen but six nerves running inwards towards the lip-lobes, two per lobe, are present. The oesophagus has a distinct long isthmus so that it appears to have a middle bulb. The excretory pore is post-oesophageal in position, is very prominent and leads into very large lateral canals — an X-like condition indistinguishable from that found in many Pharyngodoninae — which are not present in typical Enterobius or Trypanoxyuris species. There are lateral alae running the full length of the body in both sexes.

Male. The male tail is long and very characteristic. There are broad caudal alae and five (? six) pairs of papillae and a pair of phasmids (Figs. 3 and 4). Of these pairs of papillae one pair is large and stout and lies anterior to the cloacal opening. A similar, but slightly smaller and more low lying pair, is lateral to the cloacal opening. Immediately posterior to the cloacal opening is a pair of close-set, small papillae. The body narrows very rapidly posterior to the cloacal opening. From this tail arises a pair of long papillate phasmids and more posteriorly a final pair of long pedunculate papillae at the base of which is a pair of small papillate-like bumps which certainly represent the remains of a pair of papillae. The structure of these is not clear in the adult but quite clear in the fourth-stage larva. The terminal portion of the tail projects beyond the caudal alae. The most remarkable structures present are a pair of apparently wholly cuticular double clasper-like organs which, in ventral view, enfold the pair of smallish papillae lying posterior to the cloacal opening (Figs. 3 and 10). These structures appear to arise from a cuticular mass developed in the posterior lip of the cloacal opening through which the small papillae referred to above pass. About half way along its length each clasper-like structure bifurcates so that terminally they form a double horn-like structure.