

HEDRURIS SIREDONIS FROM AMBYSTOMA TAYLORI ENDEMIC TO LAGUNA ALCHICHICA PUEBLA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Five of 34 salamanders collected from Laguna Alchichica, Puebla, Mexico were infected with *Hedruris siredonis*. The occurrence of *H. siredonis* in *Ambystoma taylori* constitutes a new host record for this nematode.

Although the nematode *Hedruris siredonis* Baird, 1858, has been reported from caudate amphibians in the contiguous United States and Mexico, its geographic distribution is probably limited to Mexico. Chandler (1919) identified a frequently occurring nematode of *Taricha torosa* of Oregon tentatively as *H. siredonis*. Since Baird's account of *H. siredonis* was based on a single exiguously described female, the identity of Chandler's specimens could only be inferred from circumstantial evidence. Later, Caballero and Hollis (1938) provided a detailed description of *H. siredonis* based on several mature male and female specimens from a salamander identified as *Ambystoma tigrinum*, collected from Lake Xochimilco, Mexico, D.F. Because of inconsistency in older publications in applying the specific names *tigrinum* and *mexicanum* (Freitas and Lent 1941a, b; Smith, 1969) and because both species may occur sympatrically in parts of Mexico, the actual identity of Caballero and Hollis' host cannot be verified.

In a review of the genus *Hedruris*, Freitas and Lent (1941a) proposed *H. chandleri* nom. nov. for *H. siredonis*, Chandler, 1919 nec Baird, 1858, in that *H. chandleri* is distinct from *H. siredonis* redescribed by Caballero and Hollis with respect to the relative positions of the excretory pore and nerve ring and the form of the spicules. Specimens reported by Lehmann (1954) from *Taricha granulosa* and *Ambystoma gracile* in Oregon are probably better identified as *H. chandleri*. More recently, Dyer and Brandon (1973) reported *H. siredonis* from *Ambystoma ordinarium* of San Jose Lagunillas, Michoacán, A. sp. of Zacapu, Michoacán and *A. subsalsum* of Laguna Alchichica, Puebla.

Of 34 salamanders collected from Laguna Alchichica on 2, March, 1973, 5 were infected with *H. siredonis*. These salamanders were from a neotenic population of *Ambystoma* endemic in Laguna Alchichica that were compared by Brandon *et al.* (1982) with the holotype of *Ambystoma subsalsum* Taylor (1943) and with *A. tigrinum* from several populations in Puebla, Tlaxcala, and Hidalgo. These investigators concluded that the holotype is identifiable as *A. tigrinum* and is specifically different from the Laguna Alchichica neotenes designated as *A. taylori*. This necessitates amendment of the report by Dyer and Brandon (1973, *op. cit.*) so that the salamander hosts of *H. siredonis* taken at Laguna Alchichica are *A. taylori nec subsalsum*. The occurrence of *H. siredonis* in *A. taylori* constitutes a new host record. Representative specimens are deposited in the USNM Helm. Coll., No. 77156.

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