
ON THE OCCURRENCE OF THE NEMATODE, *CRUZIA AMERICANA*, IN A RACCOON, *PROCYON LOTOR LOTOR*.¹

A raccoon, *Procyon lotor lotor*, was trapped in Leroy Township, Lake County, Painesville, Ohio, 1960. Upon autopsy, approximately 50 nematodes were found in the proximal part of the large intestine. The worms were usually found next to the mucosal lining, but as many as 10 were found within the solid intestinal contents. The nematodes were fixed in AFA and stained with Semichon's carmine.

Cruzia americana was named by Maplestone (1930) from illustrations of specimens taken from the North American opossum by Canavan (1929). Canavan had identified the specimens as *Cruzia tentaculata* (Rudolphi, 1819) Travassos, 1917. Ruiz (1947) in his study of the genus *Cruzia*, decided that *C. americana* was probably synonymous with *C. tentaculata*. Crites (1956) redescribed *C. americana* from the North American opossum and pointed out numerous morphological differences which separate it from other species in the genus, particularly from *C. tentaculata*. Buchanan (1957) reported *C. americana* from Texas nine-banded armadillo.

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The worms from the raccoon corresponded in all essential features and internal measurements to those given by Crites (1956) for *C. americana*. The internal measurements of the male specimens also generally agreed with those given by Buchanan for his specimens from armadillos but some were longer by as much as 2.5 mm. Buchanan had no mature female specimens.

It has not been ascertained whether the infection reported here was accidental or whether populations of raccoons in Ohio now harbor this parasite. A closely related nematode, *Pseudocruzia orientalis* (Maplestone, 1930) Wolfgang, 1953 has been reported from pigs in India but Wolfgang (1953) believes that reptiles may be its natural hosts. This is the first report of nematodes of the genus *Cruzia* in placental mammals other than armadillos (Edentata). ALVIN R. BARTHOLOMEW AND JOHN L. CRITES. *Department of Zoology and Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210.*

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