

Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Monogeneans¹

Deborah B. Pouder, Eric W. Curtis, and Roy P.E. Yanong²

Introduction

This publication is one in a series of pictorial guides that is designed to assist in the identification of common freshwater fish parasites. The publications included in this series are:

- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Sessile Ciliates
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Motile Ciliates
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide:
 Dinoflagellates, Coccidia, Microsporidians, & Myxozoans
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Monogeneans
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Digenean Trematodes
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Nematodes
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Acanthocephalans, Cestodes, Leeches, & Pentastomes
- Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Crustaceans

The information provided in this guide is not intended to be a complete, detailed description of each parasite or parasite group and its characteristics but rather is intended to assist in the visual identification of some of the most common species or groups of parasites seen in freshwater fish. For further information on each parasite, refer to publications in the "Recommended Reading" and "Reference" sections below.

Guide Information

- Target Tissue: provides the location on/in the fish where the parasite is most commonly found.
- Characteristic: provides a brief description about the appearance of the parasite.
- Size: provides the size or size range of the parasite. (1 μ m = 0.001 mm = 0.0001 cm) (μ m = micron or micrometer; mm = millimeter; cm = centimeter)
- Movement: provides the type of movement, if any, of the parasite.
- Note: provides a brief comment of interest about the parasite.

Recommended Reading

UF/IFAS Circular 91 Nematode (Roundworm)
Infections in Fish. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA091

- 1. This document is FA-111, one of a series of the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, Program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date July 2005. Reviewed March 2020. Visit the EDIS website at https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu for the currently supported version of this publication.
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UF/IFAS Circular 120 Fish Health Management Considerations in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems - Part 1: Introduction and General Principles. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA099

UF/IFAS Circular 121 Fish Health Management Considerations in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems - Part 2: Pathogens. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA100

UF/IFAS Circular 122 Fish Health Management Considerations in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems - Part 3: General Recommendations and Problem Solving Approaches. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA101

UF/IFAS Circular 920 *Ichthyophthirius multi iliis* (White Spot) Infections in Fish. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA006

UF/IFAS Circular 921 Introduction to Fish Health Manage-ment. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA004

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-13 Use of Copper in Freshwater Aquaculture and Farm Ponds. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA008

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-90 Pentastomid Infections in Fish. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA090

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-107 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Sessile Ciliates. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA107

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-108 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Motile Ciliates. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA108

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-109 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Flagellates. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA109

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UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-112 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Digenean Trematodes. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA112

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-113 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Nematodes. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA113

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-114 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Acanthocephalans, Cestodes, Leeches, and Pentastomes. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA114

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet FA-115 Common Freshwater Fish Parasites Pictorial Guide: Crustaceans. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/FA115

UF/IFAS Fact Sheet VM-104 Cryptobia iubilans in Cichlids. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/VM077

References

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Monogeneans

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Dactylogyrid





Target Tissues: Primarily gills

Appearance: Two to four eye spots; one pair of large anchor hooks; scallop-shaped

head

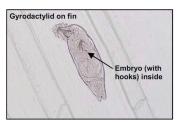
Size: Approx. 328–388 μm in length

Movement: Free-moving, though anchor end often attached to fish tissue

Note: Egg-layer

Gyrodactylid





Target Tissues: Primarily skin and fin

Appearance: Two pairs of anchor hooks; v-shaped "head"

Size: Approx. 0.3–1.0 mm in length

Movement: Free-moving, though anchor end often attached to fish tissue

Note: Live-bearer; may be able to see fully-developed embryo with hooks inside

adult