

***Rhabdias lamothei* n. sp. (Nematoda: Rhabdiasidae) from *Leptodeira maculata* (Colubridae) in Mexico, including new records of *R. fuscovenosa* (Railliet, 1899) Goodey, 1924**

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Abstract

Rhabdias lamothei n. sp. (Nematoda: Rhabdiasidae) from the lungs of *Leptodeira maculata* (Colubridae) is described and illustrated. This is the 53rd species assigned to the genus and the first species described from an endemic snake in Mexico. *Rhabdias lamothei* differs from all other species by having the combination of the following characters: body coiled, truncated anterior end, 6 lips, equatorial vulvae, esophagus length /body length ratio 8.36–12.46 (10.31%), tail length / body length ratio 4.49–12.28 (6.98 %), and principally by the markedly elongated tail with a sharp terminal point. The geographical distribution of *R. fuscovenosa* is expanded in 13 localities and 6 new host records are provided.

Key words: *Rhabdias lamothei* n. sp., *Rhabdias fuscovenosa*, taxonomy, Nematoda, Rhabdiasidae, *Leptodeira maculata*, Colubridae, Mexico

Introduction

The cosmopolitan genus *Rhabdias* Stiles and Hassall, 1905 includes around 52 species, most of which are parasites of amphibians (Ranidae, Bufonidae) and reptiles (Colubridae) (Baker, 1987; Bursey *et al.*, 2003; Goldberg and Bursey, 2005; Kuzmin, 2003; Kuzmin *et al.*, 2003; Kuzmin *et al.*, 2005; Lhermitte-Vallarino and Bain, 2004; Sarkar y Manna, 2004).

Eight species have been recorded parasitizing snakes (Bursey *et al.*, 2003), 3 of them are distributed in the Americas, *R. eustreptos* (MacCallum, 1921) Chitwood and Chitwood, 1934, *R. fuscovenosa* (Railliet, 1899) Goodey, 1924 and *R. vellardi* Pereira, 1928.