



A new species of *Meteterakis* Karve, 1930 (Nematoda: Heterakoidea) from *Indotestudo elongata* (Blyth) in China with a key to the species of *Meteterakis*

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Abstract

Meteterakis wangi sp. nov. was collected from the intestine of *Indotestudo elongata* (Blyth) from Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, China by anthelmintic treatment. The new species differs from congeners by the shape and length of spicules, the number and arrangement of caudal papillae, and presence of gubernaculum. The name of *M. bufonis* Gambhir, Tarnita, Chinglenkhomba, Gyaneswori & Indranich, 2006 was preoccupied and is thus a junior secondary homonym of *M. bufonis* (Biswas & Charkavarty, 1963) Baker, 1984. We propose to rename the species as *M. gambhiri* nom. nov. A key to the species of the genus *Meteterakis* is also given.

Key words: *Meteterakis wangi* sp. nov., Heterakoidea, *Indotestudo elongata*, China

Introduction

The genus *Meteterakis* was established by Karve (1930). Inglis (1958) revised the genus and recognized 8 species. Baker (1987) lists 16 species. Since then, several new species have been added to this genus (Adamson, 1986; Hasegawa, 1987, 1990; Gupta & Naiyer, 1993; Bursey *et al.*, 2005; Gambhir *et al.*, 2006). To date, three species have been reported from China. *M. govindi* Karve, 1930 from *Bufo melanostictus* in Taiwan and Canton (Yamaguti, 1935; Koo, 1939); *M. japonica* (Wilkie, 1930) from *Bufo gargarizans*, *B. formosus*, *B. asiaticus* in Sichuan, Shanghai and Fujian (Hsu, 1933; Li, 1933; Kung & Wu, 1945; Wang *et al.*, 1978); *M. paucipapillosa* Wang, 1980 from *Eumeces elegans* in Fujian (Wang, 1980). In this paper, we describe the fourth species of *Meteterakis* from China.

Material and methods

An elongated tortoise, *Indotestudo elongata* (Blyth), reared as a pet in Hebei Normal University, Shijiazhuang, Hebei, China was inactive, and ate very little. We suspected it was infected by parasites. Therefore, anthelmintic treatment was made by Albendazole (GSK, Tianjin, China) for deworming. The treatment was performed at a dose rate of 20 mg per kg body weight in December, 2009. Nematodes were collected from feces after 24 hours of deworming. After washing in physiological saline, the specimens were fixed in hot 4% formalin, then preserved in 70% ethanol until they were studied. For light microscopy examination, nematodes were cleared in lactophenol. Drawings were made with the aid of Nikon microscope drawing attachment. For scanning electron microscopy (SEM) studies, specimens were fixed in 4% formaldehyde, post-fixed in 1% OsO₄, dehydrated through an ethanol series and acetone, and then subjected to critical point drying. The specimens were coated with gold and examined with a Hitachi S-570 scanning electron microscope at an accelerating voltage of 15 KV. Measurements (minimum, maximum, followed by mean in parentheses) are given in micrometers, unless otherwise stated. Specimens have been deposited in the College of Life Sciences, Hebei Normal University (HBNU), Hebei Province, China.