

emop^{xii}

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Programme and General Info

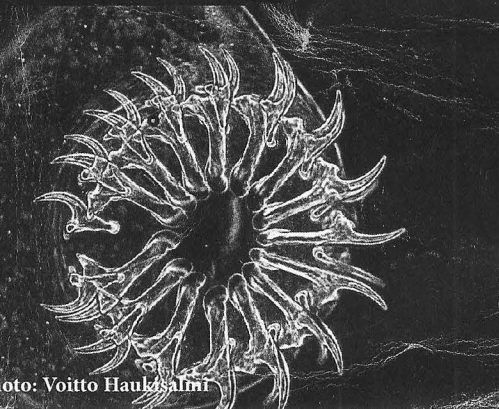


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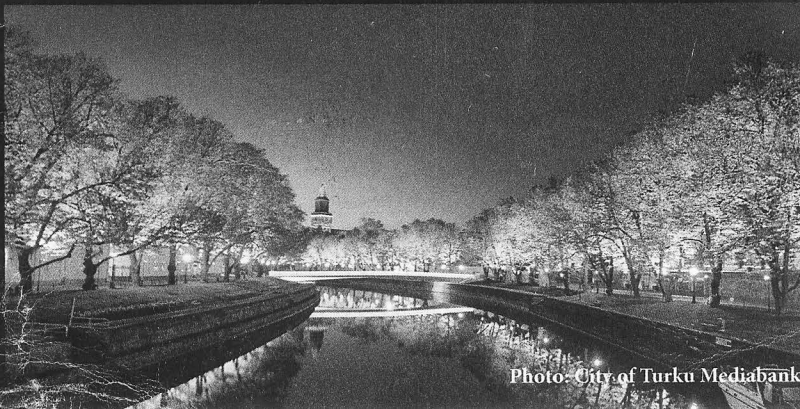


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Parasites of *Notothenia coriiceps*: preliminary results of studies on the Vernadsky research station, Antarctica, in 2014–2015

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The Antarctic cod *Notothenia coriiceps* is the most abundant fish species in the waters around Antarctic and plays an important role in completing the life cycles of several parasites. The **aim** of our study was to update the information on parasites of *N. coriiceps* at the shore of Argentine Islands, Antarctica.

The study was carried out in 2014–2015 at the Vernadsky Station area during the 19th Ukrainian Antarctic expedition. Totally, 106 *N. coriiceps* specimens were dissected; more than 8,300 specimens of parasites and 7,900 cysts were collected. All fishes were infected with helminthes. Nematodes (n=1,438) were the most prevalent; they were found in 97.2% of fish with intensity 13.9 ± 9.4 (SD). Trematodes (n=3,221) were found in 94.3% of fish; intensity 32.2 ± 28.2 . Acanthocephalans (n=2,506) were found in 93.4% of fish; intensity 25.3 ± 21.3 . Cestodes (n=762) were found in 62.3% of fish; intensity 9.1 ± 9.9 . Ectoparasites (n=390) were observed in 55.7% of fish. Leeches (Hirudinea) were found in 43.4% of fish; intensity 3.2 ± 3.1 . Monogenea were found in 32.1% of fish; intensity 5.6 ± 7.6 . Copepoda were observed in 4.7% of fish; intensity 1.2 ± 0.4 . Cysts (n=7,935) contained parasites were observed on the intestine wall and liver of all fishes with intensity from 6 to 270. Comparison of our data with results of previous studies of *N. coriiceps* in Antarctic waters revealed increasing of the prevalence and intensity of fish infection with Nematoda and decreasing of the prevalence of Cestoda; the level of fish infection (prevalence and intensity) with others groups of parasites does not significantly changed.