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I PARASSITI DELLA POPOLAZIONE
DI *CARASSIUS CARASSIUS* L. (*OSTEICHTHYES*, *CYPRINIDAE*)
DEL LAGO DI ALVIANO (FIUME TEVERE)

SUMMARY

THE PARASITES OF THE *CARASSIUS CARASSIUS* L. (« *OSTEICHTHYES*, *CYPRINIDAE* ») POPULATION IN LAKE ALVIANO (TIBER RIVER). - Lake Alviano (77,5 m a.s.l.), a reservoir formed behind a hydroelectric dam, is located in the middle tract of the Tiber River. The lake has a surface area of 3.49 Km², a 5.0 X 10⁶ m³ capacity with a maximum depth of 9 m. There is little variation in the water level and there are extensive shallow, marshy areas.

A study was conducted on the population of *Carassius carassius* L. in Lake Alviano to contribute to the knowledge of the parasites present in the fish of the River and of the *C. carassius* species in Italy.

During the course of one year no fish were removed from different points in the lake and examined. For the parasites found, the following characteristics were noted: somatometric values, forms and sites of location, number and dimensions of the form found in the various organs and the relative occurrence.

Parasites of one or two of the following 8 species were found in 56 specimens (= 50,9%): *Saprolegnia* sp. on the skin (7,27%), *Chilodonella cyprini* (Moroff, 1902) in the gills (3,63%), *Trichodina domerguei* (Wallengren, 1897) in the gills (7,27%), *Myxobolus minutus* (Nemeczek, 1911) in the gills (2,72%), *Myxobolus exiguus* (Thélohan, 1895) in the gills (1,81%), *Raphidascaris acus* (Bloch, 1779) in the intestinal walls (7,27%), *Ergasilus sieboldi* (Nordmann, 1832) in the gills (33,63%), *Argulus foliaceus* (Linné, 1758) in the gills (0,9%).

The gills were most affected by the parasites (77,46%) followed by the skin and intestine with an equal occurrence of 11,26%.

E. sieboldi was the most frequent parasite, but to a much lesser degree (33,63%) than that previously found in *Scardinius erythrophthalmus* L. population of the same Lake Alviano (77%).

Compared to other populations in the middle tract of the Tiber and to other water bodies in Central Italy, the rare presence of *Myxosporidia* should be noted and that it is only in the gills and in diffuse infiltration.