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SEGNALAZIONE DI ACANTOCEFALI PARASSITI
DI *SILURUS GLANIS* (L.) DEL FIUME PO (*)

SUMMARY

OCCURRENCE OF ACANTHOCEPHALANS IN " *SILURUS GLANIS* " (L.) FROM Po RIVER. - One hundred and three *Silurus glanis* specimens, out of 147 examined (70%), proved to be infected by 4 species of acanthocephalans belonging to the class Palaeacanthocephala: *Pomphorhynchus laevis*, *Acanthocephalus anguillae*, *Echinorhynchus clavula*, *Leptorhynchoides plagicephalus*. Among these, the dominant species was *P. laevis*.

There is no difference in infection between males and females. Infection was high in the size range under 40 cm (TL).

The main zone of the digestive tract affected was the midgut and, less frequently, the anterior part. In most cases 2 or even 3 species were found to coexist in the same host intestinal portion; attachment sites being extremely close.

In 29 *S. glanis* specimens, with TL < 40 cm, encysted forms of *P. laevis* were found in the peritoneum.

The present work is the first report regarding the presence of *L. plagicephalus* in *S. glanis* specimens from the Po River.