

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A NEW RECORD OF *PITHECOSTRONGYLUS SATYRI* IN SLOW LORIS
(*NYCTICEBUS COUCANG*)

SIR: A strongylid worm, *Pithecostrongylus satyri* (Nematoda: Strongylidae), have been reported for the first time from orang utan, *Pongo pygmaeus* which died in Moscow Zoological Garden (Lubimov, 1930). Yamaguti (1961) mentioned that this species is synonymous with *P. alatus*, recovered from Sumatra orang utan. In the present study, we recovered *P. satyri* from *Nycticebus coucang* (Primata: Lorisidae), from Lubuk Linggau, Sumatra. The presence of this species in *N. coucang* have never been reported before.

Materials for this study were thirteen specimens which were recovered from dead *Nycticebus coucang*. Specimens were fixed in FAA, preserved in 70% alcohol and then cleared and mounted in glycerine-alcohol for examining under a compound microscope. The worms were medium in size and delicate. Females were 6,925 micrometres (μ) in length by 23 μ in width at head, body width increasing posteriorly to 49 μ at neck, 55 μ at nerve ring, 70 μ at oesophago-intestinal junction, 73 μ at vulva, 93 μ at midbody, decreasing to 28 μ at anus, 21 μ at cauda. Eggs were oval on morulated stage, 53 x 25 μ in measurement. Oesophago-intestinal junction lies 378 μ from the anterior end, the length of the oesophagus 378 μ from the anterior end. The tail was 81 μ long by 21 μ wide.

Males were 5,193 μ in length, by 23.4 μ wide at head, 54 μ at nerve ring, 52 μ at neck, 77 μ at oesophago-intestinal junction 384 μ from the anterior end, oesophagus length 384 μ . Bursa was present with three lobes and the spicule very complex.

Morphological characters and measurements of the worms fit closely the description of *P. satyri* as described by Lubimov (1930). The finding of this nematode in *Nycticebus coucang* from Sumatra, is a new report. Rijksen (1978) also reported the same genus in *P. pygmaeus* from Sumatra. It is possible that the species of worm described in this report is the same as those recovered from *P. pygmaeus*.

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