



Novel morphological data of *Allopodocotyle pedicellata* (Stossich, 1887) Pritchard 1966 (Platyhelminthes: Digenea) from *Sparus aurata* Linnaeus, 1758 (Teleostei) off the Algerian coast:

The first record

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## Background

The Opecoelidae Ozaki, 1925 are represented by *Allopodocotyle pedicellata* (Stossich, 1887) Pritchard, 1966, was first described in the intestine of the host *Sparus aurata* (Sparidae) of Trieste, in the Adriatic Sea, by Stossich, 1887.

- ✓ The identification of this species is based on the **morpho-anatomical study**.
- ✓ *Allopodocotyle pedicellata* Stossich, 1887 found in the same host species is a **new locality record off the Algerian coast**.

➤ As part of an ongoing effort to explore the diversity of trematode parasites of marine teleost fishes, 26 individuals of *Sparus aurata* Linnaeus, 1758 were collected from Algerian coastlines.



*Sparus aurata* Linnaeus, 1758

## Morphological study



Class: Trematoda  
Sub-class: Digenea  
Family: Opecoelidae Ozaki, 1925

Genus *Allopodocotyle* Pritchard, 1966

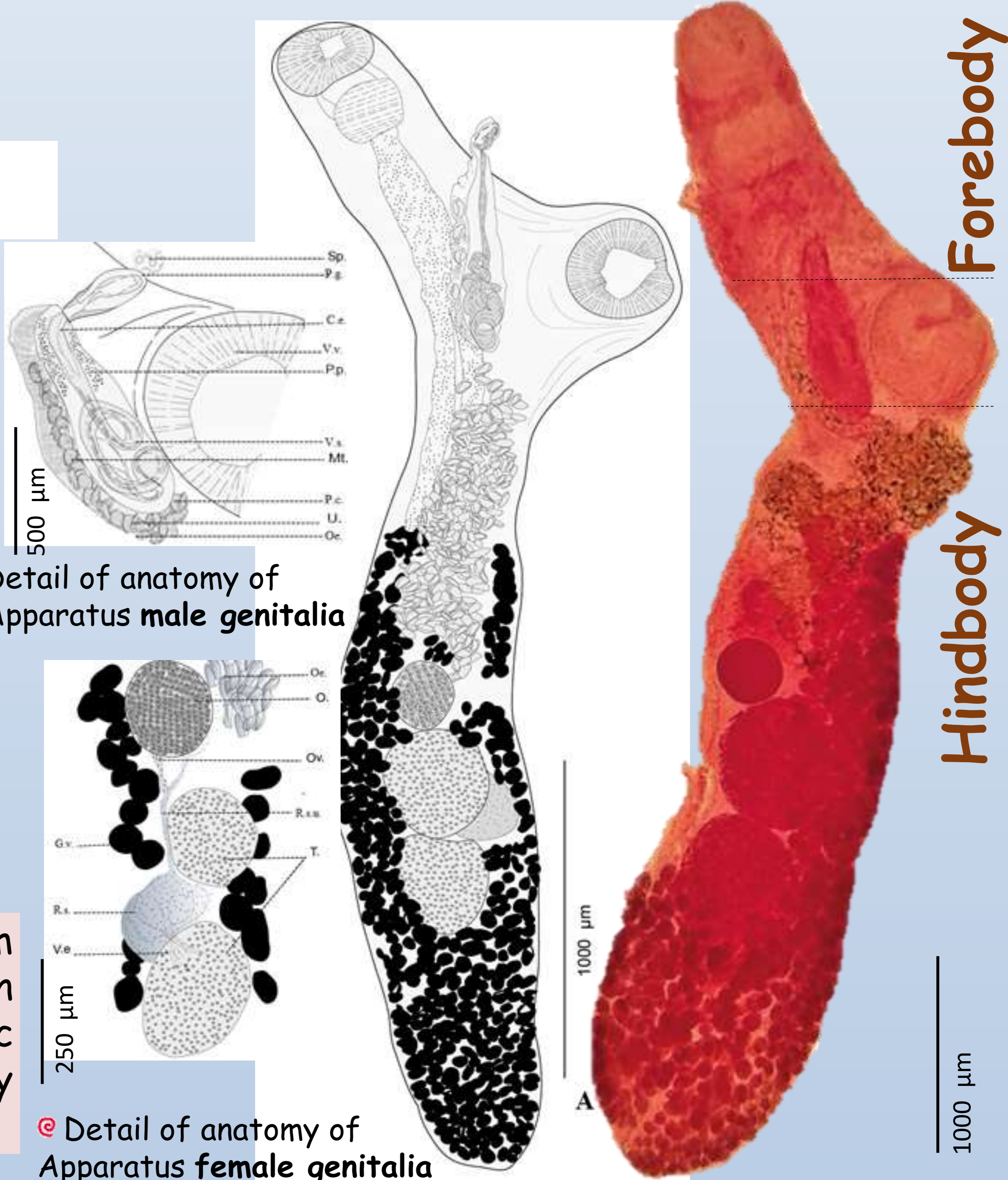
## Result and discussion

*A. pedicellata* belongs to group C, having :

- **Testis** in tandem,
- **cirrus sac** long extending the well hindbody,
- **Genital pore** sinister post-bifurcation
- **Follicular vitellarium** reaching a level between the ovary and the ventral sucker.

Our specimens of *A. pedicellata* collected from its type host *S. aurata* for the first time in Algeria are similar morphologically and metric data are very close to those redescribed, by Bartoli et al. (1989).

Our Study, aims to significantly increase the number of **digeneans species** contribute to the knowledge of the **diversity** of parasites in this fish in Algeria.



Detail of anatomy of Apparatus male genitalia

Detail of anatomy of Apparatus female genitalia

O.s.: Oral sucker; V.s: Ventral sucker; Ph: Pharynx; O.: Ovary; T.: Testis; Ov.: Oviduct; R.s.: Seminal Receptacle; F.v: Follicular vitellarium; U.s.r.: Receptacle seminal uterin; V.e.: Vasa efferentia; Mt.: Metraterm; E: Egg; P.p.: Prostaticapars; E.d.: Ejaculateurduct;

*Allopodocotyle pedicellata* Stossich, 1887 Body, Ventral view

