PREFACE

Mammals are one of the components of the food cycle ecology. They are consumed in the form of flesh by the human being, which is not only delicious but nutritious also.

Since mammals carry heavy helminth infection, especially cestode parasites. It may transferred in the human body and cause many disease. The helminth infection consequently reduces the food value of these mammals. Hence keeping in mind the economical value and importance of human survival, the author keen to study the cestode parasites of mammals as the study of the helminth parasites of these is an urgent necessity today.

So far little work has been done on the cestode parasites of mammals in India when compared to the wealth of information available in various parts of the world, Southwell, Thapar, Singh, Moghe, Shinde are the pioneers in the study of systematic and morphology of the cestodes in India.

The author visited many villages in the Sangamner region for the collection of cestode parasites from goat during the period of three years i.e. from October 2007 to September 2010.

The specimen were collected from the intestine of fresh cut goats, then some of these are fixed in Bouin’s fluid for histopathology, some are flattened, stained in Harri’s haematoxylene and prepared permanent slides for taxonomical study. Drawings were made with aid of camera lucida. All the measures are given in millimeter. All the slides are deposited in the Department of Zoology, S.M.D.M. Mahavidyalaya, Kallam, Tal. Kallam, Dist. Osmanabad, M.S. India.
GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND OF RESEARCH PLACE

Ahmednagar district is the largest district in the state of Maharashtra, having the area of the state. The district has historical heritage. 5.66% of Ahmednagar district was created as early as in 1818, located part of the state.

Boundries: To the north of Ahmednagar district is Nasik and Aurangabad district. To the east district is of Beed and Osmanabad, to the south is Solapur and Pune; and to the west lie of Thane and Pune.

Ahmednagar district is divided into fourteen Tahasils. The author has chosen Sangamner Tahsils for the collection of parasites.

It is a sub division and Taluka headquarter. The town is situated on the confluence of the Pravara and Mhalungi River. Various small scale and large scale industries are running here. There are many educational institutions also.
Map Showing Location of Maharashtra State in India.
Map showing location of Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra:

Map showing location of Sangamner in Ahmednagar: