Preface

The cestode parasites are found in plenty in edible as well as common birds. Since birds carry heavy helminthic infection, which ultimately reduces food value of birds, the study of helminth parasites is an urgent necessity today. Birds are commonly used as food by most of the people. If birds are not properly cooked the cestode parasites cause dangerous diseases. Since the work on the cestode parasites of birds in India had left a great deal of scope for research, this work has been undertaken.

The author has conducted so many tours for the collection of cestode parasites from birds during October 1975 to July 1978. He has collected many cestode parasites at Aurangabad, Jalna, Paithan, Lavalatabad and Bodhgaon from Ahmednagar district from edible as well as common birds.

The specimens of the cestodes were preserved in 4% formalin and some were fixed in Bouin's fluid for the histological studies. The cestodes were stained with Harris haematoxylin, cleared in xylol and mounted in balsam for systematic study of cestode parasites. The drawings are made with the aid of camera lucida. All the measurements are in millimeters.
All the specimen slides are deposited in the Cestodology Laboratory, Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, Aurangabad.


A survey of cestode parasites is just the beginning and cannot be regarded as final.