

# INTRODUCTION

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## INTRODUCTION

The cestode parasites are found in plenty, in the vertebrates like fishes, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. So far very little work has been done on the cestode parasites of vertebrates in India, as compared to wealth of information available in the various parts of the world. In India Woodland, Baylis, Southwell, Moghe, Singh, Gupta and Johri are the pioneers, who gave more emphasis on systematics and morphology of cestodes.

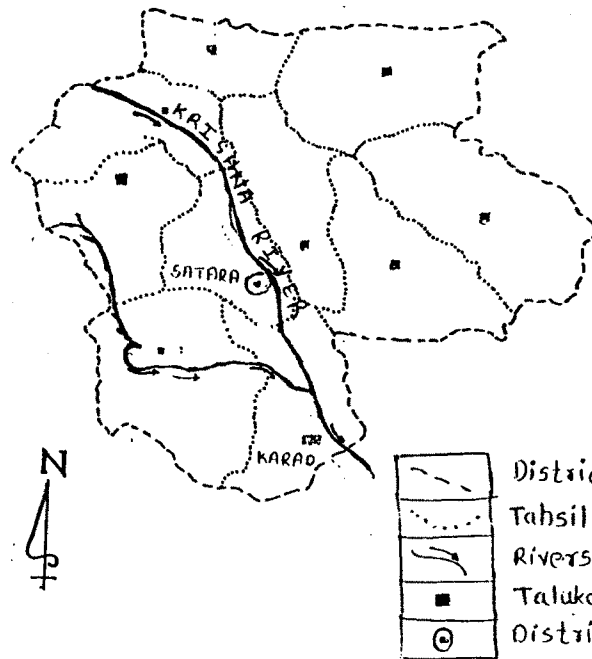
Among recent workers, working on taxonomy, histopathology, neurosecretion, histochemistry, histomorphology and biochemistry of the cestode parasites of vertebrates are Hanumantrao, Bhalerao, Siddique, Khambata, Subhpradha, Fotedar, Chisti, Nama, Shinde, Tondon, Jadhav, Wankhede and Hiware.






The parasites when present in these vertebrate hosts cause serious diseases to the hosts. The vertebrates like fishes, birds and mammals are an important source of food for human beings and also have economic importance. The cestodes cause many diseases when the flesh of the hosts is improperly cooked and consumed by human beings. The parasites when present, increase the rate of mortality of hosts and reduces their food values.

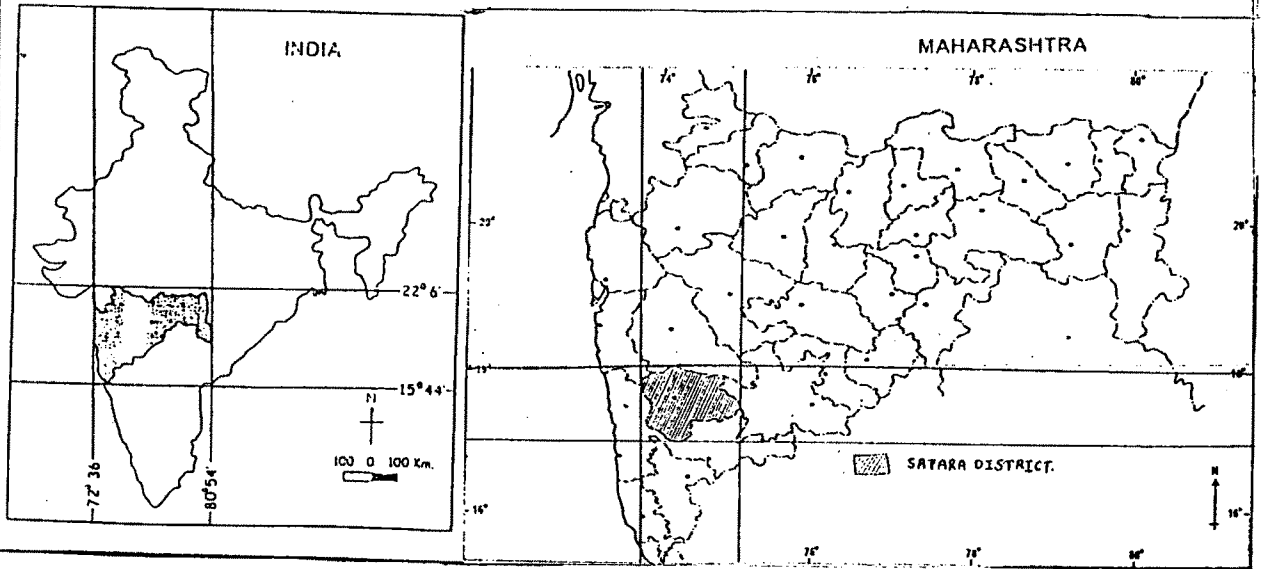
Keeping in mind the economic importance and food value of fishes, the author has undertaken the work on systematics and morphology of the cestode parasites of fishes.

In Satara District Krishna is main river which has varied fauna of edible fishes. The fishes captured in different localities of Krishna river and water reservoirs of Satara district are brought in fish markets.

# STUDY AREA OF SATARA DISTRICT

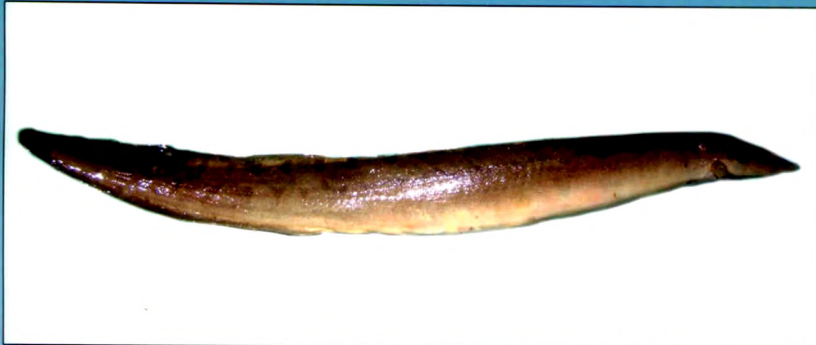


-  District Boundary
-  Tahsil Boundary
-  Rivers
-  Taluka place
-  District place

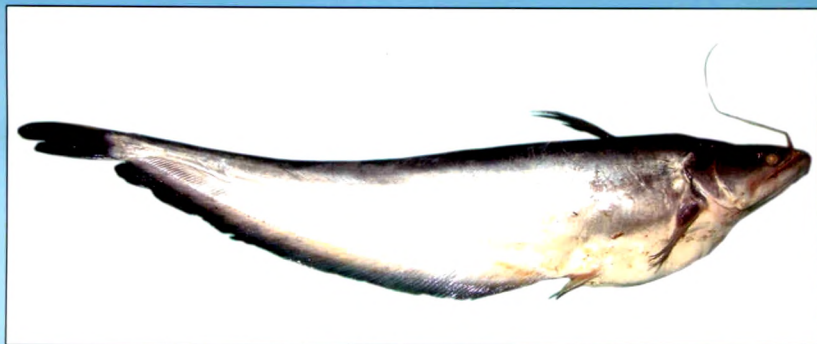


## PLATE - A

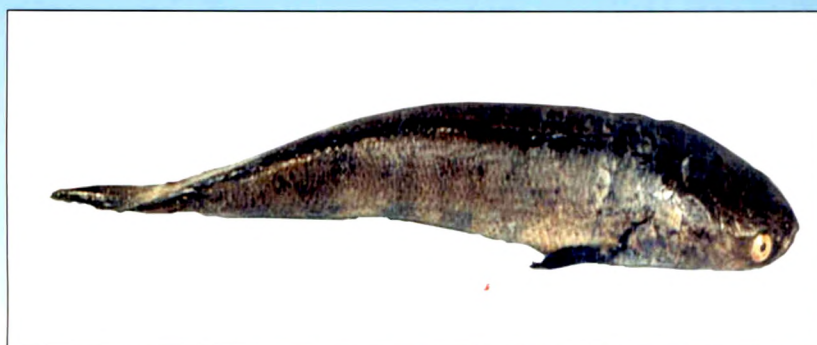
HOST



*Mastacembelus armatus*



*Wallago attu*



*Channa marulius*