RESUMO SIMPLES - OUTRAS ÁREAS TEMÁTICAS

STRUCTURE OF THE METAZOAN PARASITE COMMUNITY OF HAEMULON AUROLINEATUM (CUVIER, 1830) (HAEMULIDAE) IN SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL.

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Members of the Haemulidae family are primarily marine and occur throughout the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans. Haemulon aurolineatum (Tomtate grunt) typically inhabits seagrass beds and reef environments, where it feeds on small crustaceans, mollusks, benthic invertebrates, plankton, and algae. This study investigated the parasite community associated with H. aurolineatum. A total of 100 specimens were collected from the coastal zone of Rio de Janeiro, obtained from local fishermen. The fish were transported to the Laboratory of Parasitology of Fish and Wild and Synanthropic Mammals at the Federal Rural

University of Rio de Janeiro, where they were necropsied using a 150 μm mesh sieve technique. All parasites recovered were preserved in 80% ethanol for subsequent analysis of the parasitic community, and metazoan taxa were identified based on specialized literature for each group. The calculated parasitological indices included prevalence, intensity, mean intensity, and mean abundance. Among the 100 fish examined, measuring 14.5 to 23 cm in length (mean 19.23 cm) and 45 to 152 g in weight (mean 103.79 g), 74 individuals were parasitized, totaling 284 metazoan parasites. The parasite community was composed of digenetic trematodes Aponurus pyriformis, Prosorhynchus ozakii, Genolopa ampullacea, Genolopa pritchardae, Diphterostomum brusinae, Infundiburictus longovatus, Monorchis sp., Leurodera decora, Lecithochirium musculus, Diplangus paxillus, Homalometron foliatum, Cainocreadium oscitans, and Didymozoidae); the copepods Ceratocolax tavaresi and Colobomatus sp., the nematodes Procamallanus sp. and Dichelyne sp., the monogenean Choricotyle sp., and the acanthocephalan Dollfusentis chandleri. Endoparasites comprised 262 individuals (92.2%), whereas ectoparasites represented 22 individuals (7.7%). The nematode Procamallanus sp. showed a prevalence of 53% and intensity 1–7. For the digenean trematode Genolopa ampullacea, prevalence was 22% and intensity 1–6. Mean intensity and mean abundance were 2.62 and 1.39 for Procamallanus sp., and 2.14 and 0.47 for Genolopa ampullacea, respectively. Procamallanus sp. was the most prevalent species, followed by G. ampullacea. This pattern may be associated with the host's feeding habits, as both Procamallanus sp. and Genolopa ampullacea use invertebrates, common components of Haemulon aurolineatum's diet, as intermediate hosts in their life cycles.

Palavras-chave: haemulon aurolineatum- parasitic community -rio de janeiro-brazil.