

Morphological identification of parasitic nematodes in the pickhandle barracuda (*Sphyraena jello*) and indian halibut (*Psettodes erumei*), from the Persian Gulf, Iran

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Abstract

Due to importance of the Persian Gulf fishes as main protein sources, study of fish helminthic infestation is the most important measure. The present study was conducted to morphological identification of parasitic nematodes and carried out on 300 specimens belonging to two species of the Persian Gulf fishes including: *Sphyraena jello* and *Psettodes erumei* which were collected from Bandar Abbas fish market from October to December 2017. The worms were fixed in 70% ethanol, stained and identified. In the present study, *S. jello* had no helminthic infestation. The species which have been identified in *P. erumei* were as follows: *Anisakis* larval type I, *Hysterothylacium* larval type XV and *Hysterothylacium* sp.. According to the results, the overall frequency of helminthic infestation was 9.34%, the highest frequency was due to *Hysterothylacium* larval type XV. Based on the results, there was no helminthic infestation in the flesh of fish. Regarding the zoonotic potential of the identified helminthes, more studies should be done to determinate the helminthic infestation and hazards of zoonotic diseases.

Keywords: *Sphyraena jello*, *Psettodes erumei*, zoonotic nematodes, Persian Gulf