

*Ceratomyxa* sp. (cnidaria: myxosporea) infecting gallbladders of the freshwater fish *Satanoperca jurupari* (heckel, 1840) (osteichthyes, cichlidae), in the Rio Curiaú Environmental Protection Area (EPA) in Macapá, Amapá, northern Brazil.

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#### Abstract

The *Satanoperca jurupari* is a common fish in the rivers of the Amazon basin that in the adult stage can reach up to 0,25m in length, it lives in benthopelagic environments, its diet is varied, being considered omnivorous. This cichlid is one of the most found species in the Rio Curiaú Environmental Protection Area (EPA) in Macapá, in the state of Amapá, northern Brazil. The actions of urbanization and cattle raising in the EPA, predisposes fish to parasitic infections and among them Myxozoa, which have evolutionary affinities with Cnidaria, mainly supported by the presence of polar capsules, which are analogous to cnidarian nematocysts. The objective of this study was to describe the occurrence of *Ceratomyxa* sp. found in the EPA's *S. jurupari*. 10 specimens were collected from November 2016 thru February 2017 and were transported to the “laboratório de Morfofisiologia e Sanidade Animal da Universidade do Estado do Amapá (UEAP)”, where they were anesthetized with cold water and desensitized by cervical section for macroscopic analysis. And then were necropsied and the viscera were checked for analysis of the material collected under a light microscope. The sporogonic stages were found in the gallbladder, tapering to a narrow posterior end. The sporogonic stages and mixoespores had a developmental gradient along the length of the plasmodium, characterizing the genus *Ceratomyxa* with a prevalence index of 50%. The occurrence of *Ceratomyxa* sp. present in the ichthyofauna of the State of Amapá, and these preliminary results reveal the need for further studies concerning the biological characteristics as details in electron microscopy and molecular biology for identification at the species level, since in the literature there are only 9 species described of the genus *Ceratomyxa* in marine fishes and 4 in freshwater species.

Keywords: Amazon; Gallblader, Myxozoa.