

## Presence of Larval (L<sub>3</sub>) *Contracaecum* sp. (Anisakidae) in *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* (Erythrinidae) of Alto Amazonas. Perú

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*Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus* is popularly known as “shuyo” in Perú, it's a one species of economic importance of the Alto Amazonas, widely distributed in the Peruvian jungle territory. The Peruvian fauna of freshwater fish is found principally in the Amazon basin (Ortega & Vari, 1986). According to Ortega et al. (2012) there are more than 800 species registered in the Peruvian Amazon, but knowledge of fish parasitic fauna in the Peruvian Amazon is scarce. This study reports the first record of a presence of larval *Contracaecum* sp in *H. unitaeniatus* "shuyo" (Erythrinidae) of Yurimaguas district, Alto Amazonas, Loreto Region. The collection of parasites was performed in February 2014 in Yurimaguas port terminal. The fishes from the artisanal fishing were transported to the Laboratory of Parasitology in wildlife and Zoonoses. Nematodes were clarified using lightening essence (alcohol-phenol). Five specimens of *Contracaecum* sp larvae (L<sub>3</sub>) were identified; they were located on the visceral surface of *H. unitaeniatus*. The larval morphology has a presence of long intestinal caecum and a short ventricular appendix. The recorded prevalence (100%) of *Contracaecum* sp. larvae in *H. unitaeniatus* indicates that these parasites commonly occur in this host species in the locality under study. This is a first record of *Contracecum* sp. in *H. unitaeniatus* in the Peruvian Amazon. This nematode could have a zoonotic potential.

Key-words: *Hoplerythrinus unitaeniatus*, *Contracaecum* sp. zoonotic.