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Graduate Management
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Title:

**Survey on prevalence of infestation with plerocercoids of ligula intestinlis
among of sistan fish and its importance in reducing fish growth**

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Abstract

To investigate the status of the infection of local fishes of City of Sistan with the neonatal stage of the *Ligula intestinalis* parasite, 1000 samples (200 pieces of each kind of fish) of fishes (Schizothorax, Anjeck, carp, silver carp, and Amor) were collected from two regions of Hamoon Wetland and Sistan's Half Wells. The samples were then examined. According to obtained results, no infection was found in the fishes including Anjeck and Silver Carp. From 200 studied whitefishes, 3 fishes (1.5%) were infected with *Ligula intestinalis* parasite and the infection severity was 1 per fish. The spread of infection was increased with gaining weight and there was a significant correlation between weight gaining and the infection. The spread of infection with *the Ligula intestinalis* parasite was not statistically different among the whitefishes in different seasons of the year. 30 out of 200 carp fishes (15%) were infected with the parasite and the severity of infection was equal to 1.16% per fish. The spread of infection with *the Ligula intestinalis* parasite was decreased with weight gain in the Carp fishes. The statistical examination showed that there is a significant statistical correlation between weight gain and the spread of infection. The spread of infection with *Ligula intestinalis* parasite in carp fishes was not significantly different in different seasons of the year. Besides, 15 out of 200 studied Amor fishes were infected with the *Ligula intestinalis* parasite. The mean value of the severity of infection was 1.13 per fish. Also, there was a significant statistical correlation between the weight and spread of infection in the sample fishes.

Keywords: *Ligula intestinalis* parasite, Native fish, Cestoda.