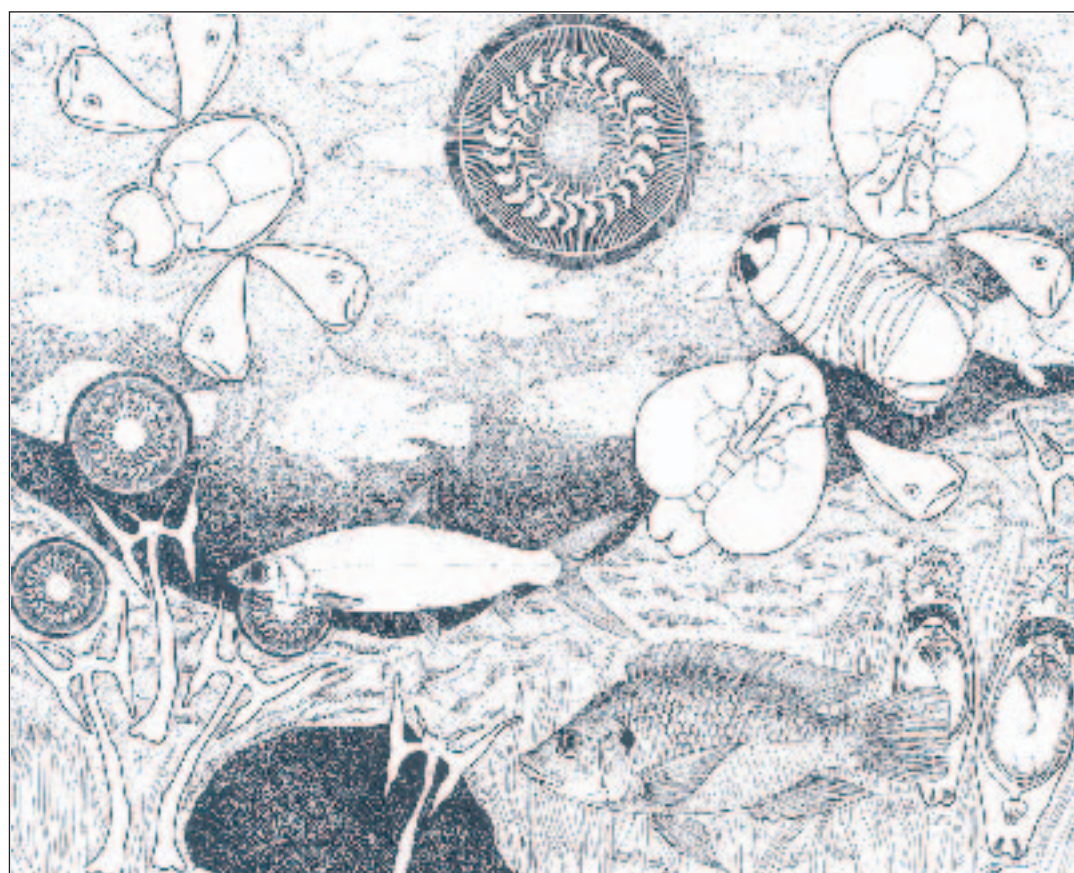


Checklist of the parasites of fishes of Latvia

FAO
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PAPER

369/3



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by

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PREPARATION OF THIS DOCUMENT

This checklist is one of the outcomes of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Technical Cooperation Programme TCP/LAT/3001 – Improving Aquatic Animal Health and Quality and Safety of Aquatic Products in Latvia, implemented from 2005 to 2007, whose overall objective is to support the sustainable development of the aquaculture sector of Latvia. It addresses one of the specific objectives of the project on developing and reinforcing national policies in the area of aquatic animal health management and disease control in accordance with those of the European Union (EU).

This checklist is also part of the FAO's continuing effort to address the need for information on the occurrence of diseases and pathogens of aquatic animals. Three previous checklists, published as FAO Fisheries Technical Papers Nos. 369, 369/1 and 369/2, have summarized the parasites of fishes of the Philippines, Bangladesh and Viet Nam. These checklists of parasite series are valuable information sources that can be used when conducting pathogen risk analysis, an essential component of National Strategies on Aquatic Animal Health Management. Preparation and implementation of such national strategies are in line with FAO's Technical Guidelines on Health Management for the Responsible and Safe Movement of Live Aquatic Animals, the fifteenth of a series of technical guidelines that support the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF).

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Checklist of the parasites of fishes of Latvia.

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ABSTRACT

This checklist summarizes information on the parasites of Latvia fishes contained in the world literature dating to the end of 2005. Information is presented in the form of parasite-host and host-parasite lists and includes 305 named species of parasites, distributed among the higher taxa as follows: Protista – 42, Myxozoa – 49, Digenea – 38, Monogenoidea – 81, Cestoda – 33, Nematoda – 31, Acanthocephala – 11, Hirudinida – 2, Mollusca – 6, Branchiura – 2 and Copepoda – 10. Also included are many records of parasites not identified to species level. The Parasite-Host List is organized on a taxonomic basis and provides information for each parasite species on the environment (freshwater, brackish, marine), the location (site of infection) in or on its host(s), the species of host(s) infected, the known geographic distribution (by major waterbody) in Latvia, and the published sources for each host and locality record. The Host-Parasite List is organized according to the taxonomy of the hosts, and includes for each host, the English language, Latvian and Russian common names, environment (freshwater, brackish, marine), status in Latvia (native or exotic) and the list of parasites reported. Both lists are accompanied by remarks, as warranted, giving specific information on points of systematics, nomenclature, possible misidentifications, introductions, life cycles, etc. Citations are included for all references and parasite and host indices are included.

The parasite fauna of fishes of Latvia has received considerable attention. Nevertheless, parasites have been recorded from only about 45 percent of the more than 114 species of marine and fish occurring in the country's waters. The common freshwater fish species (particularly those having economic importance, such as the cyprinids, percids, esocids and salmonids) have been particularly well studied, providing a good general picture of their parasite faunas and data having value for use in faunistic analyses.

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CONTENTS

| | Page |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Preparation of this document | iii |
| Abstract | iii |
| Acknowledgements | iv |
| Abbreviations | vi |
| | |
| INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| | |
| PARASITE-HOST LIST | 5 |
| | |
| HOST-PARASITE LIST | 61 |
| | |
| REFERENCES | 94 |
| | |
| SUPPLEMENTARY REFERENCES | 100 |
| | |
| PARASITE INDEX | 101 |
| | |
| HOST INDEX | 106 |

Abbreviations

| | |
|-------|--|
| B | brackish |
| CCRF | Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries |
| Dist. | distribution |
| EU | European Union |
| F | freshwater |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations |
| FIES | Fisheries and Aquaculture Information and Statistics Service |
| FIMA | Aquaculture Management and Conservation Service |
| M | Marine |
| LU | Latvian University |
| NDC | National Diagnostic Centre |
| REUD | Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia |
| TCP | Technical Cooperation Programme |