



**DETECTION AND OCCURENCE OF PARASITES  
IN *Chitala ornata* (Knife fish) FOUND  
IN LAGUNA DE BAY**

A Research Presented to the  
Biological Sciences Department  
College of Science and Computer Studies  
De La Salle University-Dasmariñas  
City of Dasmariñas, Cavite

In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree  
Bachelor of Science Major in Human Biology

**MARELLA L. BARCELON  
JOSHUA JOACHIM M. PAGADUAN**

April 2016



### ABSTRACT

This study detects the presence of parasites in 30 *Chitala ornata* collected from Laguna de Bay in Landayan San Pedro, Laguna, Philippines. Descriptive-correlational is the research design of this study. Mucus smear was done for ectoparasite detection. Compression and pounce method was applied in internal organs stained with methylene blue before observing under the microscope. Parasites detected were Acanthocephalan, *Argulus* sp., Ciliate 1, Ciliate 2, Ciliate 3, *Epistylis* sp. *Heterophyid* sp., Monogenean and *Tetrahymena* sp. Intestine is the most infected organ during dry season while the fins are most infested part during wet season. *Epistylis* sp. and Ciliate 1 (13.33%) are the most occurring parasite during dry season followed by Acanthocephalan, Ciliate 2, Ciliate 3, and *Tetrahymena* sp.(6.67%). *Heterophyid* sp. (20%) predominates the wet season followed by *Argulus* sp. and Monogenean. (6.67%). There was also no significant difference between dry and wet season in terms of number of *Chitala ornata* infected, which means that during both season *Chitala ornata* was infected with parasites.

**Keywords:** *Chitala ornata*, acanthocephalan, ciliate, *Epistylis* sp., *Tetrahymena* sp., *Argulus* sp., *Heterophyid* sp., monogenean.