

## ABSTRACT

This present study focused on the detection of endoparasites from the internal organs of three host fishes, *C.macrocephalus*, *O.niloticus* and *C.chanos*. The methods used include flotation technique that was performed at the PCH laboratory, De La Salle University Dasmariñas, and histological procedures done at the Pathology Laboratory of De La Salle University Medical Center. Some parts of the flotation technique were also done at the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Batangas. Confirmation of the presence of suspected endoparasites was performed at the Veterinary Medicine Laboratory, University of the Philippines, Los Banos.

Five species of endoparasites were recovered from the samples of *C.macrocephalus* and *O.niloticus*. These endoparasites occurred particularly in the tissues of the stomach and intestines cross sections. The prevalence rate of the following endoparasites were: trematode (43.8%), apicomplexa (20.7%), nematode (15.3%), cestode (13.8%) and acanthocephala(6.4%). There was a significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) difference in the prevalence rate of two of the host fishes, *C.macrocephalus* ( $X^2 = 0.84$ ), and *O.niloticus* ( $X^2 = 0.79$ ).

The highest prevalence rate of endoparasitism was reflected by *C.macrocephalus* (79.3%), followed by *O.niloticus* (20.7%) and *C.chanos* (0.0%). \