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ISOPODS OF THE GENUS *ANILOCRA* OF SOME WEST INDIAN FISHES

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Marine fishes were examined for parasites of the genus *Anilocra* in Puerto Rico and adjacent islands, Mona Island, the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, and the Bahamas. Twenty-four species of fishes were found to be infected. These parasites, formerly believed to be one species, *Anilocra laticauda* Milne Edwards, 1840, are divided into a complex of seven species: *Anilocra laticauda* parasitizing *Epinephalus adscensionis*, *E. cruentatus*, *E. fulva*, *E. guttatus*, *Haemulon aurolineatum*, *H. carbonarium*, *H. chrysargyreum*, *H. flavolineatum*, *H. macrostomum*, *H. plumieri*, *H. sciurus*, and *Paranthias furcifer*; *Anilocra* n. sp. 1 parasitizing *Chaetodon capistratus*, *C. ocellatus*, *C. sedentaris*, and *C. striatus*; *Anilocra* n. sp. 2 parasitizing *Acanthurus chirurgus* and *Acanthurus bahianus*; *Anilocra* n. sp. 3 parasitizing *Chromis cyanea* and *C. multilineatus*; *Anilocra* n. sp. 4 parasitizing *Holocentrus ascensionis* and *Myripristis jacobus*; *Anilocra* n. sp. 5 parasitizing *Holacanthus tricolor*; and *Anilocra* n. sp. 6 parasitizing *Abudefduf saxatilis*.

Interesting geographic distributions were found in *Anilocra* n. sp. 2 parasitizing *Acanthurus chirurgus* exclusively in Puerto Rico and east to the Virgin Islands and *Acanthurus bahianus* exclusively from Mona Island north and again parasitizing *A. chirurgus* on the east coast of Florida. The same distribution pattern was found in *Anilocra* n. sp. 4 parasitizing *Holocentrus ascensionis* in Puerto Rico and east to the Virgin Islands and parasitizing *Myripristis jacobus* from Mona Island north and again parasitizing *H. ascensionis* on the east coast of Florida. *Anilocra* n. sp. 3 shows another interesting distribution pattern parasitizing *Chromis multilineatus* exclusively from Mona Island east to the Virgin Islands and *C. cyanea* exclusively in the Bahamas and on the east coast of Florida.

Damage by the parasite ranged from erosion of scales and discoloration of the skin to actual bone deformation around the site of attachment.

Proceedings of the Association of Island Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean (1977) 13: 15.