

Lymphocystis from West Indian Marine Fishes

Authors: Williams, Ernest H., Williams, Lucy Bunkley, and Grizzle, John M.

Source: Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 20(1) : 51-52

Published By: Wildlife Disease Association

URL: <https://doi.org/10.7589/0090-3558-20.1.51>

The BioOne Digital Library (<https://bioone.org/>) provides worldwide distribution for more than 580 journals and eBooks from BioOne's community of over 150 nonprofit societies, research institutions, and university presses in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences. The BioOne Digital Library encompasses the flagship aggregation BioOne Complete (<https://bioone.org/subscribe>), the BioOne Complete Archive (<https://bioone.org/archive>), and the BioOne eBooks program offerings ESA eBook Collection (<https://bioone.org/esa-ebooks>) and CSIRO Publishing BioSelect Collection (<https://bioone.org/csiro-ebooks>).

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Digital Library, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Digital Library content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non-commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne is an innovative nonprofit that sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

RESEARCH NOTES/CASE REPORTS

Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 20(1), 1984, pp. 51-52
© Wildlife Disease Association 1984

Lymphocystis from West Indian Marine Fishes

Ernest H. Williams, Department of Marine Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico 00708, USA; **and Lucy Bunkley Williams and John M. Grizzle**, Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture, Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama 36849, USA

Lymphocystis is a viral disease of fishes producing macroscopic nodules that are often conspicuous on the skin and fins. It is known from 96 species of 32 families of fishes (Nigrelli and Rugieri, 1965, *Zoologica* 50: 83-96; Lawler et al., 1977, *J. Wildl. Dis.* 13: 307-312). Lymphocystis has been reported from tropical Atlantic fish species in aquarium magazine articles but collecting locations were not given. These reports do not necessarily indicate collection locations in the Caribbean because: 1) many of these fish species occur also outside of the Caribbean and 2) infections could have been obtained after capture from contaminated aquarium fishes or aquaria. Thus the following cases represent the first documented reports of lymphocystis in the Caribbean.

During extensive underwater observations of external parasitic isopods of fishes in Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Mona Island, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Colombia, Panama, Barbados, Trinidad, Tobago, Curaçao, Bonaire, and Bermuda, four new host species for lymphocystis disease were observed and collected (Table 1). These cases represent the first reports of this disease among members of family Apogonidae.

Collections were made with multiprong microbarb spears, or quinaldine fish relaxant and nets, while employing SCUBA equipment. All cases were histologically confirmed.

Received for publication 24 May 1982.

During more than 2,700 man-hours of underwater observations in the Caribbean for external parasites of fishes, the only fishes with externally expressed lymphocystis lesions that have been noted (all but one collected) were the 11 cases reported in this study. Lymphocystis apparently occurs very rarely among Caribbean coral reef fishes.

Specimens of the bicolor damselfish, *Pomacentrus partitus* Poey, and the black hamlet, *Hypoplectrus nigricans* (Poey), ordinarily occur singly on the reef. All lymphocystis infections in these hosts involved only one fish per collection (Table 1). Specimens of the spotfin butterflyfish, *Chaetodon ocellatus* Bloch, frequently occur in pairs. Both members of the pair of *C. ocellatus* observed in the present study appeared to possess lymphocystis lesions, although only one of the pair was collected and examined. Individuals of the sawcheek cardinalfish, *Apogon quadrisquamatus* Longley, normally occur in small cryptic groups in the reef during the day. Two of six specimens of *A. quadrisquamatus* occurring in a small hole in the reef flat in the present study possessed lymphocystis lesions.

All infected hosts were adults. Lesions were confined primarily to the dorsal fin of the bicolor damselfish, but occurred also on the caudal fin of one individual and only on the dorsal body surface of another; pectoral fin of the black hamlet; body of the spotfin butterflyfish; and anal and pelvic fins of the sawcheek cardinalfish. In-

TABLE 1. Occurrence of lymphocystis on Caribbean marine fishes.

Host	Locality (date)
<i>Pomacentrus partitus</i> Poey	Crashboat, Aguadilla (30 Jan. 1976), Sardinera, Mona Island (23 April 1976), shelf edge off La Parguera (6 Jan. 1977), Carbinero, Mona Island (25 May 1977), Laurel Reef, La Parguera (15 Sept. 1977), Puerto Rico; Dolphin Point, Saona Island (18 May 1979), Dominican Republic
<i>Hypoplectrus nigricans</i> (Poey)	Mario Reef, La Parguera, Puerto Rico (2 Sept. 1977)
<i>Chaetodon ocellatus</i> Bloch	Bank Reef off St. James, Barbados (3 June 1981)
<i>Apogon quadrisquamatus</i> Longley	Laurel Reef, La Parguera, Puerto Rico (7 Jan. 1982)

ected individuals appeared to behave normally and were no more easily collected than uninfected individuals of the same species.

Thanks are expressed to Michael J. Dowgiallo and Joseph J. Kimmel for collecting four of the infected hosts. Special thanks are extended to Drs. John A. Plumb, Auburn University, and Raymond E. Waldner, Palm Beach Atlantic College, for review of the manuscript. Support was

provided by grant number 8852 from the American Philosophical Society, a grant from the President of the University of Puerto Rico, Dr. Ismael Almodovar, and National Science Foundation Grant OCE 78-07899. Laboratory and field equipment and assistance were provided by Centro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina, Dominican Republic; Discovery Bay and Port Royal Marine Laboratories, Jamaica.

Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 20(1), 1984, pp. 52-54
© Wildlife Disease Association 1984

Severe Disseminated Aspergillosis in a Captive Abyssinian Tawny Eagle (*Aquila rapax raptor*)

O. O. Fatunmbi and A. Bankole, Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria

Aspergillosis is a mycotic disease of avian species which has been recognized as an acute or chronic infection since the early 1800's (O'Meara and Witter, 1971, *In Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of Wild Birds*, Davis et al. (eds.), Iowa State Univ. Press, Ames, Iowa, pp. 153-162). It has been reported commonly in both wild and domestic birds (Ainsworth and Rewell, 1949, *J. Comp. Pathol.* 59: 213-214),

Received for publication 15 April 1983.

recently captured wild birds (Friend and Trainer, 1969, *Bull. Wildl. Dis. Assoc.* 5: 261-275) and free-living birds of the anseriform, larid, gallinaceous and passeriform groups (McDiarmid, 1955, *J. Comp. Pathol.* 65: 246-249; O'Meara and Witter, 1971, *op. cit.*; Rosen, 1964, *Avian Dis.* 8: 1-6).

There is little information about the occurrence of aspergillosis in free-living raptors, but the disease has been reported in the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucoceph-*