

A Preliminary Study on The Helminth Fauna of Euroasian Marsh Frog, *Pelophylax ridibundus* (Pallas, 1771) from Tokat, Artova District

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Aim of the study:In this study, the helminths of marsh frog *Pelophylax ridibundus* (formerly known as *Rana ridibunda*) inhabiting in Tokat, Artova District was first time investigated.

Material and Methods:Forty-five (29♂♂; 16♀♀) Eurasian marsh frogs, *Pelophylax ridibundus* were collected between 18.07.2008 – 05.04.2009 from Artova district in Tokat. Samples were overdosed in ether-filled containers, and the dissected with surgical scissors, the gut was excised and separated. The contents of each part and other were each mixed with 0.5% saline solution and poured into petri dishes for examination under a stereomicroscope.

Results: The helminths of *Pelophylax ridibundus* is comprised: 5 species of Digenea (*Brachycoelium salamandrae*, *Diplodiscus subclavatus*, *Gorgodera cygnoides*, *Gorgoderina vitelliloba*, *Haematoloechus breviansa*), 4 species of Nematodes (*Cosmocerca ornata*, *Cosmocerca sp.*, *Abbreviata*, *Oxysomatium brevicaudatum*), 1 species of Acanthocephalan (*Acanthocephalus ranae*) and observed uncountable Acanthocephalan cysts from frogs.

Keywords: Acanthocephala, *Rana ridibunda*, Marsh frog, Digenea, Nematoda, Tokat