

Parasites of vendance *Coregonus albula* (L.) from selected Pomeranian lakes

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Vendance, is one of the most valuable Polish fish. Like all the Salmonidae, it is a cold-water fish. It feeds on zooplankton, has a short life cycle and leads a shoaly lifestyle. To maintain the population stable, restocking needs to be performed.

The aim of the study was to determine the parasites of vendance in lakes where restocking is performed in contrast to lakes where this procedure is not applied. Fish were caught in 2010–2012 from five lakes through which the river Drava flows: lakes Drawsko, Lubie, Siecino and Pile (where restocking and catchers are permitted) as well as from Ostrowieckie (the DNP area – no restocking or catchers are allowed), and Morzycko (where restocking and catchers are permitted). A total of 100 fish were studied from all lakes apart from Siecino (n=116) and Ostrowiec (n=69). The fish had a mean length of 17.9–19.1 cm and weight of 47.9–68 g, except fish from lake Ostrowiec, where fish were much larger (mean 25.4 cm and 166.5 g). Detailed parasitological examinations were performed of the skin, eyes, buccal cavity, fins, heart, swim bladder, alimentary track, liver, spleen and gall bladder.

Diplostomum spp., *Tylodelphys clavata*, *Proteocephalus exiguus* and *Ergasilus sieboldi* were identified, as well as the larvae of *Triaenophorus nodulosus* and *Raphidascaris acus*. The fish were infected to varying degrees, from 11.6% in Lake Ostrowiec to 89.7% in Lake Siecino. Only *P. exiguus* was found in fish from all lakes, and was the most dominant parasite in lakes Siecino and Pile. *P. exiguus* was also a common parasite in lakes Drawsko and Morzycko, but was found only sporadically in fish from Lake Ostrowiec. The intensity of parasite invasion usually did not exceed of several dozen specimens; however, 463 parasites were found in the intestine of one fish from Lake Siecino. *E. sieboldi* was also the dominant parasite in Lake Pile (P = 71%), but was only common in lakes Lubie (P=18%) and Morzycko (P=19%), *E. sieboldi* was rare in Lake Siecino, and did not occur in other lakes. The larvae of *T. nodulosus* were only found in fish from lakes Lubie and Ostrowiec. *R. acus* larvae were found in fish from lakes Morzycko and Ostrowiec. Five species of parasites were found in fish from lakes Lubie and Morzycko, but only two species in Lake Drawsko.

Studies have shown that parasites of vendance have much higher prevalence and intensity in lakes where restocking is performed. However, parasites were rarely found in Lake Ostrowiec, where no restocking is performed.