

RECEIVED  
MAY 8 - 1933  
FISH DIVISION

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

May 5, 1933

Report 211

IDENTIFICATION OF TAPEWORM PARASITES FROM BROOK TROUT, HORTON CREEK,  
CHARLEVOIX COUNTY

Specimens of brook trout parasites were received May 4, from Mr. Kenneth Usher of Charlevoix. Viscera of three brook trout, preserved in formalin, were submitted with a letter as follows:

"Under separate cover I am sending you the inards of brook trout taken from Horton creek near this city. You will note long white worms, resembling I believe, a tape worm. Many of the fish taken had the worms, some in the gills and others throughout the inner organs.

"I would appreciate very much knowing what they are, whether harming eating of the fish, and a remedy for the condition, if any. Horton creek is sluggish and mud bottom."

Prof. G. R. LaRue of the Department of Zoology, University of Michigan identified the tapeworms as Abotrium crassum (Bloch). This tapeworm is a common and widely distributed species, being found in a number of species of fish in Europe and North America. Eating of the flesh of trout which have this worm is not a source of danger that a person might become parasitized. The species does not infest human beings.

No remedy for an infestation of wild fish with this worm is known. It is not one of the various fish diseases, since fish appear to carry the parasites without apparent ill effects.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH

John B. Greeley  
Asst. to Director