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GENUS - SETARIA

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SETARIA

- * Worms are long and milky white in colour.
- **❖** Mouth is surrounded by chitinous ring, called as "peribuccal ring".
- ***** It has lateral, ventral and dorsal prominence.
- **❖** The tail of males bears 4 pairs each of pre and postcloacal papillae.
- * The spicules are unequal.
- * The tail of female bears spines or conical projection.
- **❖** In both sexes, there is a pair of small appendages near the tip of the tail.
- * The sheathed microfilariae occurs in the blood.

Species	Final host	Intermediate host	Location
Setaria digitata	Cattle & buffalo	Mosquitoes	Peritoneal cavity
Setaria labiato- papillosa	Cattle & buffalo	Mosquitoes	Peritoneal cavity
Setaria equina	Horse, donkey	Mosquitoes	Primarily in the peritoneal cavity but sometimes in the eye, pleural cavity, lungs etc

Life-cycle

- ***** Indirect life-cycle
- ***** Mosquitoes (Aedes, Culex and Anopheles spp.) act as intermediate hosts.

Adult Setaria species live in the peritoneal cavity.

Microfilariae are taken up by mosquitoes along with blood during feeding.

Infective L3 are developed within 2 weeks and will be inoculated into the final hosts at the time of blood sucking.

They reach to the peritoneal cavity via circulation and become adult 8-10 months after infection.

Pathogensis

- **❖Setaria** spp. are non-pathogenic in their usual final host. But in the unusual hosts they cause major pathogenesis.
- **❖**Major pathogenic effects of *Setaria digita* and *S. labioato-papillosa* are due to erratic migration of their larvae in the CNS of abnormal hosts like sheep, goats and horse.
- **❖**Migratory larvae of *Setaria digitata* cause **enzootic cerebrospinal nematodiosis** (**lumbar paralysis**) in sheep & goat and **Kumri** in horses during summer and autumn.

Enzootic cerebrospinal nematodosis affected animals show clinical signs consists of

- **✓** Encephalomyelitis
- ✓ irreversible lublar paralysis
- **√** paraplegia
- ✓ Reduced milk yield
- **✓ Circling movement, Locomotor disturbances**
- **✓** Mucopurulent discharge from eyes, swelling in the legs
- *Setaria equina caused eye lesions like ocular opacity, photophobia, lacrimation, corneal leukoderma, Irridocystis, etc.

Diagnosis

- ***** It is done by finding microfilariae in routine blood smears.
- **❖** In case of cerebrospinal nematodosis, cerebrospinal fluid is necessary for detection of larval forms.
- ***** The adult worms are detected in the peritoneal cavity on post- mortem.

Treatment and control

- **❖** No effective treatment
- **❖** Ivermectin has been reported to be effective against adults of *S. equina*.
- **Control** of the mosquito vectors is suggested

