



# Oxyuris equi

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<b>Genus</b>	<b>Oxyuris</b>
<b>Species</b>	<i>Oxyuris equi</i>
<b>Hosts</b>	Horse & Donkey
<b>Location</b>	Large intestine
<b>Common name</b>	Pin worms of horses/ false whip worm



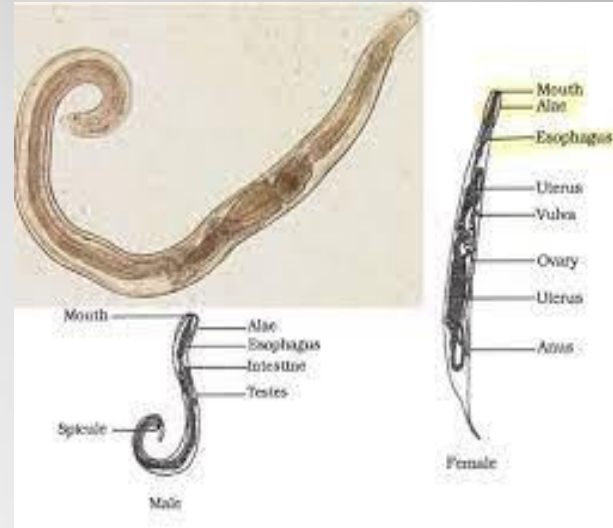
## General Characters

- ◇ Small or medium sized worm with inconspicuous lips.
- ◇ The male is 9-20 mm long and the female is 40 to 180 mm.
- ◇ **Hour-glass shaped oesophagus**

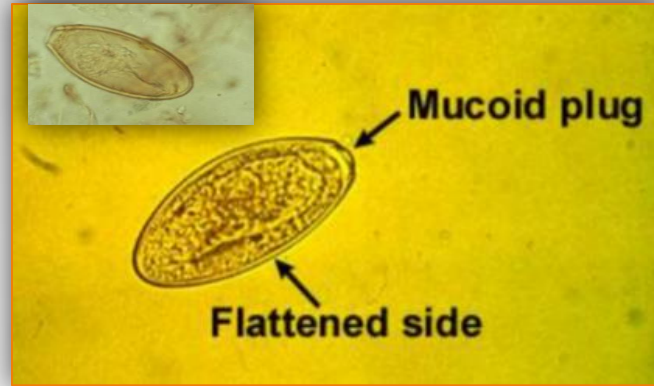


Hour-glass shaped oesophagus

- ❖ Females are usually much larger than males and have long tapering tail end (whip like).
- ❖ Male tail end is truncated having single pin shaped spicule.



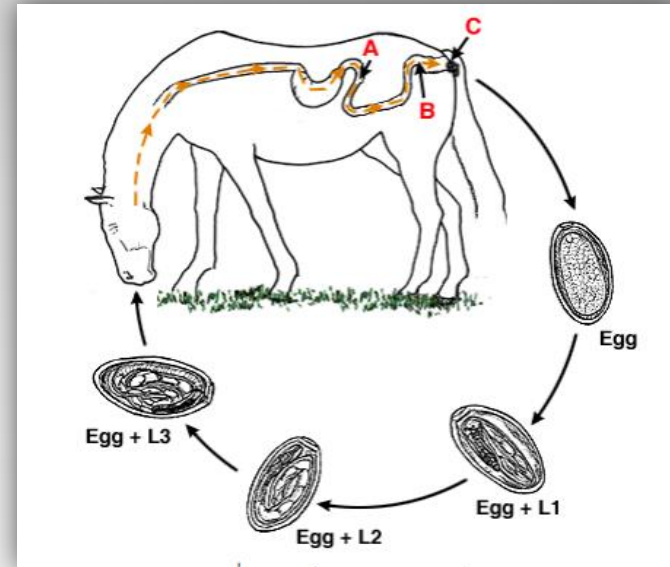
- ◆ Eggs are elongate, flattened on one side provided with mucoid plug at one pole.



## Life cycle

- ◇ **Infective stage**: egg containing 3<sup>rd</sup> stage larvae.
- ◇ **Transmission** : the ingestion of infective eggs containing 3<sup>rd</sup> stage larvae during leaking or feeding.
- ◇ **Prepatent period** : 5 months

- ◇ After fertilization, the mature female worms crawl out through the anal opening and lay eggs in clusters on the skin in the perineal region.
- ◇ Within 3-5 days, 3<sup>rd</sup> stage larvae (L<sub>3</sub>) are developed inside eggs and final hosts get infection during feeding/ingestion of egg containing L<sub>3</sub>.



- ◇ The hatching of L<sub>3</sub> occurs in the small intestine and then migrate towards the large intestine to become adult.



## Pathogenesis & Clinical signs

- ◆ **Anal pruritis** produced by the egg laying females.
- ◆ Affected animal rubs the base of its tail against any hard object, causing the hairs to break off and the tail acquires an ungroomed **rat-tailed appearance**



**Rat-tailed appearance**

## Diagnosis

- ❖ On the basis of clinical signs
- ❖ Examination of the perineal region of infected horse revealed cream coloured masses of eggs.
- ❖ Eggs are elongate, slightly flattened on one side with a plug at one pole.



# Treatment

- ◇ Levamisole
- ◇ Fenbendazole
- ◇ Pyrantel tartrate
- ◇ Ivermectin

## Control

- ◆ A high standard of stable hygiene should be followed.
- ◆ Frequent removal of bedding materials.
- ◆ Perineal region and underside of tail should be cleaned properly.

**THANK  
YOU**