

ANGUILLICOLA CRASSUS, ASIATIC NEMATOID IMPERIL EUROPEAN EEL (ANGUILLA ANGUILLA L.)**Izabella Rząd****Department of Animal Ecology, University of Szczecin, Poland**

Anguillicola crassus (Kurahawa et al. 1974) Asiatic nematoid has been reported in Europe since 1982, this far in Poland it was found in some waters. A total 136 of specimens of eel was examined in 1993 - 1996.

The infection in Lake Ińsko was 88.7% and intensity of invasion oscillated from 1 to 15 parasites. The infection in Szczecin Lagoon was 65.06% and intensity of invasion oscillated from 1 to 35 parasites.

Examinations of the blood of the infected eels showed a generally moderate erythrocytopenie and hypochromasie. The mean erythrocyte count and haemoglobin were decreased. The image of the blood was characterised by high leucocytosis. Anatomopathological changes occurred in the air bladder, the place of development of parasites. Nematodes caused inflammation of the air bladder (aerocystis) with the serous - bloody or suppurative exudation and fibrous deposits as well.

Some changes connected to ischaemia dominated in internal organs. Skin, gills, peritoneum organs, a different level of degenerative changes were found (for example in the liver) with marks of atrophy in the spleen and kidney.