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## **A preliminary survey of the helminth fish parasites in Imo River**

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### **Abstract**

A preliminary survey of the helminth fish parasites was carried out in Imo River (Nigeria). A total of 191 fishes belonging to 15 genera were examined and only 13.6% were infested with various species of helminth parasites which is low percentage of infection. The following helminth parasites were recorded. *Wenyonia virilis*, kainji; *Wenyonia* sp., *Procamallanus laeviconchus*; *Procamallanus* sp., *Sprionoura congolense*; *Sprionoura* sp., *Cucullanus* sp. and *Serradacnitis serrata*. It was found that helminth parasites showed some degree of specificity in their distribution within their fish hosts. This specificity could be as a result of the physiochemical and physiological factors operating in the gut such as pH, osmotic tension, oxygen tension and nutrient levels. The results also revealed that age and sex influence helminth parasites infections in fishes