



BIOLOGY CENTRE, ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
INSTITUTE OF PARASITOLOGY

Branišovská 31, 370 05 České Budějovice, Czech Republic
Phone: 00420-385 310 351; Fax: 00420-385 310 388
<http://www.paru.cas.cz>

Supervisor's report

Jana Zikmundová

Jana started formally her MSc project in October 2013 but she has been actively contributing (as a BSc student) to the isolation and morphological characterisation of larval trematodes in snails in the frame of our project since 2010. In the summer of 2012 she attended three field trips for collecting snails and devoted a month to molecular characterisation of the isolates of *Plagiorchis* spp. sampled. The project of her MSc thesis focuses on the molecular and morphological characterisation of the cercariae of the plagiurioidean trematodes predominantly found in *Lymnaea stagnalis* in central Europe; she also obtained samples from *Radix auricularia* which were included in the analyses. In the course of the study Jana gained substantial knowledge on both, the morphology of the cercariae and the molecular methods for species discrimination of parasites.

Jana showed initiative and worked very hard to obtain results. She is a fast learner and I am very satisfied by the way she mastered statistical and phylogenetic programs and approaches; this is a promising quality for her future work. Jana performed all statistical and phylogenetic analyses in her thesis herself. The elaboration of the thesis followed strict planning and Jana worked extremely hard to meet all deadlines. As a result, she succeeded to prepare a manuscript based on her MSc thesis results (now published). Her command of English is very good and this was a substantial advantage in writing.

In summary, I am very satisfied with the results of Jana's study and the good standard of her thesis writing. Her results are already published in an international journal with IF (*Systematic Parasitology*). I believe the present thesis fulfils the requirements and recommend it to be accepted as a partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Master degree at the Faculty of Biology of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice.

České Budějovice, 11th May 2014


Aneta Kostadinova