

100 x 43-46 whereas the *Syngamus* ova of peafowl observed in the present study were 49 x 23 in size which might be host specific.

The unidentified cestode eggs isolated from the droppings of peafowl from both the study areas measuring 62.5 in diameter resembled the findings reported by Sloss *et al.* (1994). The four-layered *Acanthocephalan* eggs with brownish, pitted shell (68.5 x 42) were also observed in the present study. The incidence of *Acanthocephalan* eggs in the droppings of peafowl might be attributed to the insectivorous feeding habits of peafowl since the larval stages of beetle being the usual invertebrate host, the birds would have contracted *Acanthocephalan* eggs by ingestion of such infected larval beetles.

The mean length and width of *Eimeria* oocysts in the present study was measured to be 23.8 x 16.2, which resembled the findings of Bhatia and Pande (1961), while the *Isospora* oocysts measuring 23.9 x 19.3 coincided with the observations of Williams (1978). Patnaik (1965) reported that the oocysts of *Isospora* sp. were sporulated in 72 hours whereas in the present study the *Eimeria* and *Isospora* sp. of oocysts were found to sporulate in 60-72 hours and 72-80 hours respectively.

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SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA OF LUNGS IN AN INDIAN LEOPARD *PANTHERA PARDUS*

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A male Leopard (*Panthera pardus*) about eight years old was found partially off feed for about two to three days. On clinical examination the animal was found suffering from some sort of respiratory disorder. Suitable antibiotic and supportive therapy were initiated but the animal did not respond well to the treatment and succumbed to the illness after three days. On post mortem examination one lung was normal whereas the other lung had become hard with multiple small nodules covering the entire lung parenchyma (Fig. 1). On histopathological examinations, the growth was diagnosed as squamous cell carcinoma of lungs.

Jejunum rectums, uterine and mammary adenocarcinoma in wild animals have been reported at the time of post mortem in wild felids (Lombard & Witte, 1959). Since very little information is available on the squamous cell carcinoma of lung in Indian leopards, it is documented here.

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Figure 1. Lung carcinoma in a Leopard (*Panthera pardus*)

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