

MICROANATOMY OF FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE TRACT ON AN ISCHNOCERAN DUCK LOUSE, *ANATICOLA CRASSICORNIS*.

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Female reproductive tract of the duck louse *Anaticola crassicornis* comprises of a pair of ovaries (each consisting of five polytrophic meroistic type ovarioles), paired lateral oviducts and a median oviduct (conforming to the general pattern laid observed in most of the species studied so far). However, the presence of spermatheca appears to be uncertain in avian Ischnocera. Many species studied from this point of view lack the spermatheca. In case of *A. crassicornis* a large paired structure (elongated rod like structure, bent downwards assuming club-shaped organ, on either side) occurs above the base of median oviduct. This structure opens into the dorsal wall of genital chamber through a thick duct. The present paper contains information regarding the histological features (based on serial sectioning and transmission electron microscopy) of the referred structure, which seems to have a somewhat uncertain homology.