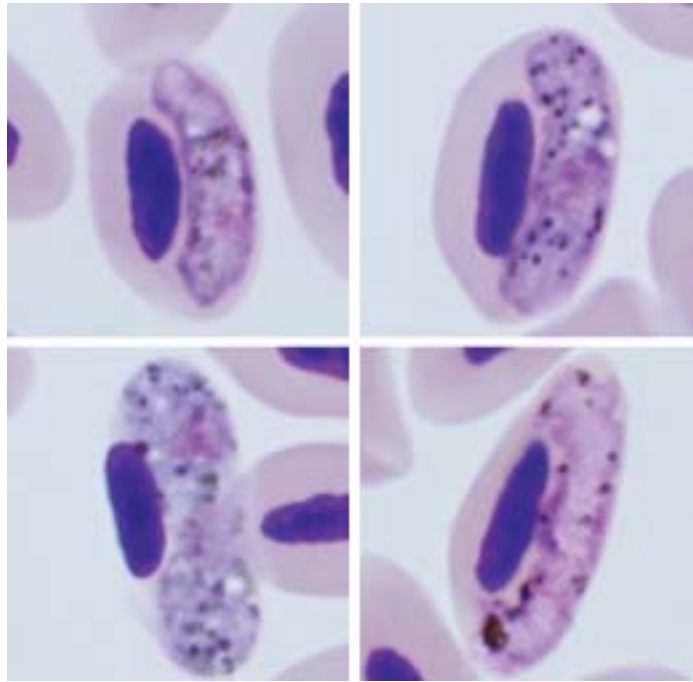


Haemoproteus (Haemoproteus) iwa Work, Rameyer, 1996

Typical blood stages:



Important diagnostic characters of blood stages:

A parasite of species of the Pelecaniformes whose growing gametocytes extend along nuclei of erythrocytes and displace the nuclei laterally from early stages of their development, which is a characteristic feature of parasite development. Cytoplasm often possesses prominent vacuoles of variable size. Both growing and fully-grown gametocytes appressed to erythrocyte envelope but do not touch erythrocyte nuclei. Pigment granules of small and medium size, very numerous, randomly scattered throughout the cytoplasm. Size and number of pigment granules increase as parasite matures. Fully-grown gametocytes only slightly enclose erythrocyte nuclei with their ends, filling erythrocytes up to their poles; they markedly displace nuclei of erythrocytes laterally, frequently to envelope of erythrocytes. Microgametocytes do not touch erythrocyte nuclei; this feature is more evident in fully-grown microgametocytes than in macrogametocytes. Number of pigment granules is approximately one-half that in macrogametocytes. Fully-grown microgametocytes are more slender in form and displace host nuclei less than macrogametocytes.

Mitochondrial cytochrome b sequences:

FREMIN01

Avian hosts and distribution:

Type avian host – *Fregata minor*.

It has been recorded on Hawaii, Galapagos, Eastern Pacific and Caribbean coast/islands; it is probably widespread in the range of distribution of frigatebirds.