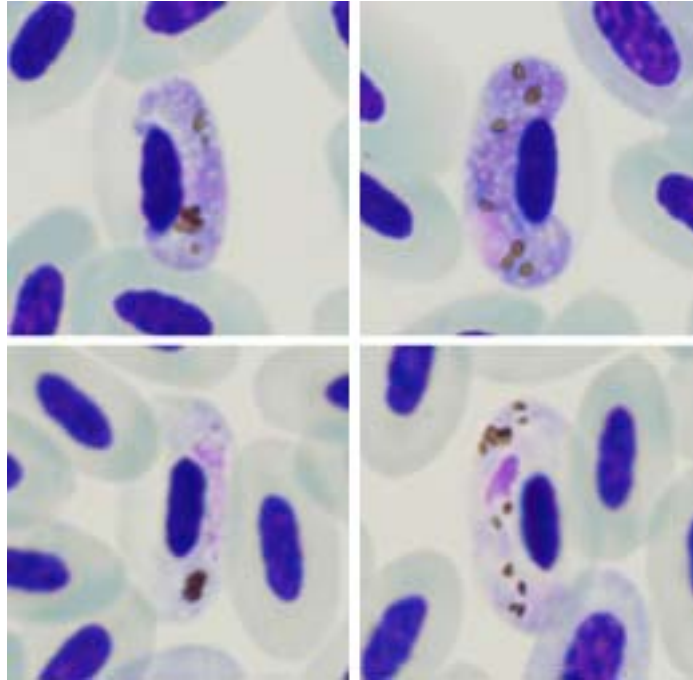


*Haemoproteus (Parahaemoproteus) micronuclearis* Iezhova, Dodge, Sehgal, Smith,

Valkiūnas, 2010

**Typical blood stages:**



**Important diagnostic characters of blood stages:**

A parasite of species of the Passeriformes whose growing gametocytes do not fill erythrocytes up to their poles, a characteristic feature of this species' development. Fully-grown gametocytes halteridial, slightly enclosing erythrocyte nuclei with their ends and displacing them laterally, but do not encircle nuclei completely; they fill erythrocytes up to their poles. In majority of gametocytes, pigment granules are of sister-size and shape, a characteristic feature of this species. Microgametocytes nuclei diffuse in growing gametocytes; begin to compress in advanced gametocytes, and then markedly compressed in fully grown gametocytes; the most distinctive feature of this species. Length, width, and area of nuclei of fully-grown microgametocytes significantly less than same parameters of macrogametocyte nuclei.

**Mitochondrial cytochrome b sequences:**

PLONIG01, PLONIG02, PLONIG03, RBQ11, VILWE1

**Avian hosts and distribution:**

Type avian host – *Quelea quelea*.

Distribution: *Haemoproteus micronuclearis* was recorded in 1 *Quelea quelea* in Uganda and 1 *Ploceus melanocephalus* in Cameroon. It is probable that *H. micronuclearis* is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa. Transmission of the parasite certainly occurs among birds belonging to *Quelea* and *Ploceus*.