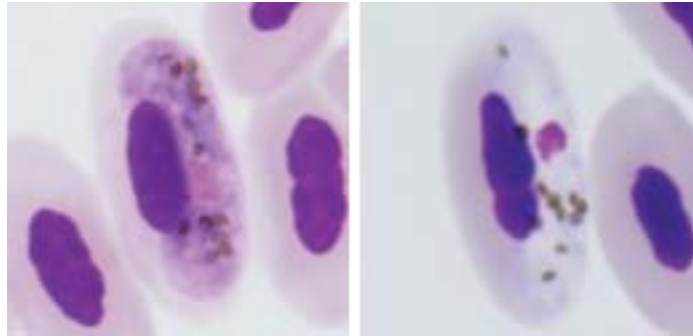


*Haemoproteus (Parahaemoproteus) nucleocondensus* Križanauskienė, Iezhova,

Palinauskas, Chernetsov, Valkiūnas, 2012

**Typical blood stages:**



**Important diagnostic characters of blood stages:**

A parasite of species of the Passeriformes whose gametocytes grow along the nuclei of infected erythrocytes; they slightly displace the nuclei laterally and do not encircle them completely. The majority of growing and fully-grown gametocytes are closely associated with both nuclei and envelope of erythrocytes, but advanced gametocytes, which do not touch envelope of erythrocytes along entire margin present, a distinctive feature of this species' development. Fully-grown gametocytes occupy nearly all cytoplasmic space on poles of erythrocytes. Fully-grown gametocytes halteridial, and only slightly enclose erythrocyte nuclei with their ends and do not displace or only slightly displace them laterally. Nucleus of macrogametocyte is compact and small, and nucleus of microgametocyte markedly condensed and small (see figures); these 2 attributes of gametocyte nuclei are distinctive morphological characters of this species. Area of microgametocyte nuclei is significantly less than in macrogametocytes, a rare character for bird haemosporidian parasites.

**Mitochondrial cytochrome b sequences:**

GRW01

**Avian hosts and distribution:**

Type avian host – *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*.

Type locality: the Curonian Spit in the Baltic Sea. Based on MalAvi database this parasite and its lineage GRW01 have been recorded in Bulgaria, Germany, Israel, Lithuania, Latvia, Nigeria, Russia (Kaliningrad Region) and Sweden. It is probably widespread throughout the range of the Great Reed Warbler.