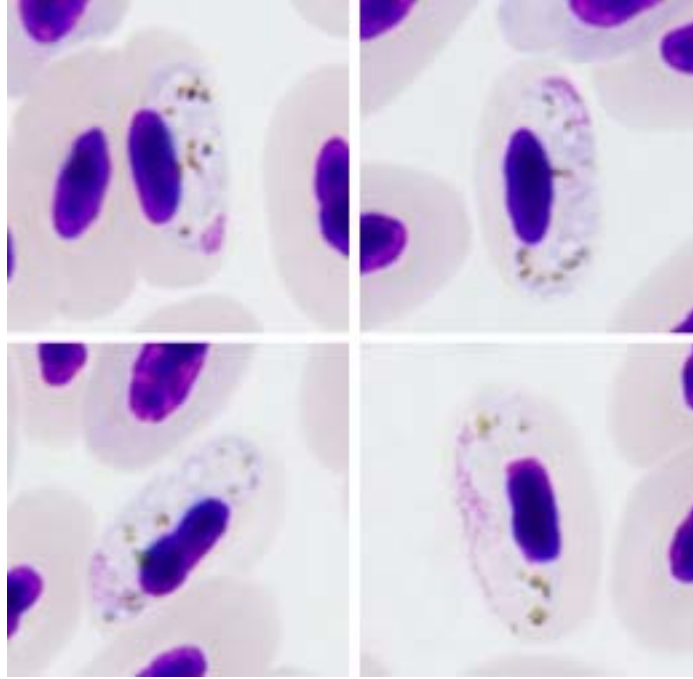


Haemoproteus (Parahaemoproteus) pallidulus Križanauskinė, Pérez-Tris,

Palinauskas, Hellgren, Bensch, 2010

Typical blood stages:



Important diagnostic characters of blood stages:

A parasite belongs to a group of avian haemoproteids with gametocytes, in which cytoplasm stains relatively pale with Giemsa. Gametocytes are closely appressed to the nuclei and envelope of erythrocytes from early stages of their development and these contacts with host cells remain undisturbed as the parasites develop. Gametocytes grow around the nuclei of erythrocytes, slightly enclose the nuclei with their ends, but do not encircle them completely. Fully-grown gametocytes fill erythrocytes up to their poles. Pigment granules are numerous, roundish, of small size (<0.5 μm), usually randomly scattered throughout the cytoplasm. It is important to note that pigment granules do not change size and shape significantly as parasite matures, which is a characteristic feature of this species.

Mitochondrial cytochrome b sequences:

SYAT03

Avian hosts and distribution:

Type avian host – *Sylvia atricapilla*.

This morphospecies and its lineage SYAT03 have been recorded on the Curonian Spit in the Baltic Sea (Russia), in Lund (Sweden), Quievrain (Belgium), Rascafría and Tarifa (Spain).