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***Isospora californica* (Protozoa: Eimeriidae) in *Peromyscus maniculatus* (Cricetidae) from White Sands National Monument, New Mexico**

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*ISOSPORA CALIFORNICA* (PROTOZOA: EIMERIIDAE) IN *PEROMYSCUS MANICULATUS* (CRICETIDAE) FROM WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMENT, NEW MEXICO.—During a survey for coccidia in mammals and reptiles at White Sands National Monument, New Mexico, fecal samples from

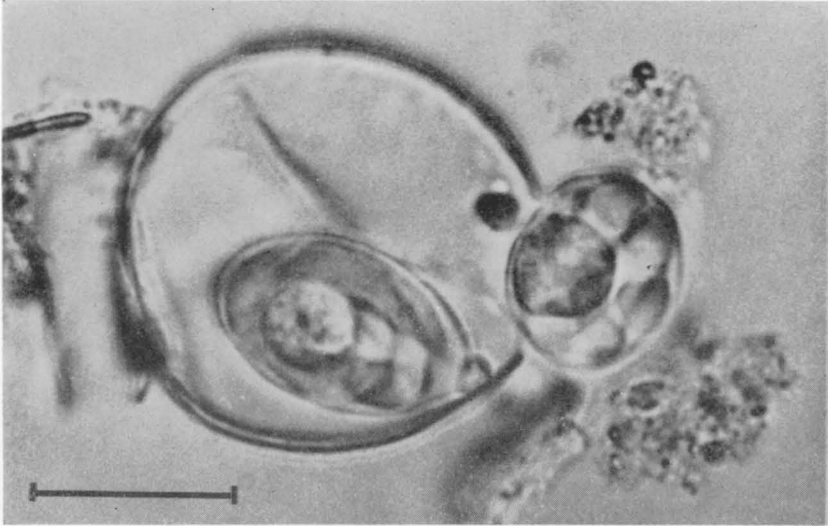


Fig. 1. Sporocyst of *Isospora californica* beside a crushed oocyst. The sporozoites can be seen positioned around the residuum and parallel to the long axis of the sporocyst. Line = 10 $\mu$ m.

three *Peromyscus maniculatus* were examined. One was found infected with *Isospora californica* described by Davis (J. Protozool. 14:575-85, 1967). The *I. californica* reported herein and those by Davis were widely separated geographically but did not differ significantly in structure or size. The characteristics of *I. californica* reported in this study are as follows: Oocyst, ovoid, 19–23 x 18–22  $\mu$ m ( $\bar{x}$  = 20.7 x 19.0), L/W = 1.0–1.4 ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.09), 1 polar body; sporocyst, lemon-shaped, 12–16 x 8–12  $\mu$ m ( $\bar{x}$  = 14.9 x 9.3), L/W = 1.5–2.0 ( $\bar{x}$  = 1.60), residuum and Stieda body present. The characteristic arrangement of sporozoites around the sporocyst residuum is shown in Fig. 1.

This report constitutes a new geographic record for *I. californica* and adds a micrograph of the coccidium, which the original description did not include. The latter is important because to correctly identify coccidia, a photograph as well as a drawing is at times necessary.

This study was supported, in part, by a grant from the University Res. Inst., Univ. Texas at El Paso; and Nat. Park Serv. Contr. CX 702961173.—Lillian F. Mayberry, Dept. Biology, New Mexico State Univ., Las Cruces, NM 88003, John R. Bristol, Dept. Biology, Univ. Texas, El Paso, 79968, and Donald W. Duszynski, Dept. Biology, Univ. New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.