Capillaria hepatica IN A GROUNDHOG (Marmota monax)
Authors: WILLIAM A. REYNOLDS, and GEORGE GAVUTIS
Source: Journal of Wildlife Diseases, 11(1) : 13
Published By: Wildlife Disease Association
URL: https://doi.org/10.7589/0090-3558-11.1.13
*Capillaria hepatica* **IN A GROUNDHOG** *(Marmota monax)*

WILLIAM A. REYNOLDS, Box 194, Three Bridges, New Jersey 08887

GEORGE GAVUTIS, Jr., Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, R.D. 1, Box 148, Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920

This note describes a natural *C. hepatica* infection in a groundhog shot at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The only grossly observable lesions were in the liver. Thirteen, yellowish-white, slightly raised lesions approximately 2 to 4 mm in diameter and extending into the liver parenchyma approximately 4 mm, were scattered over all lobes of the liver. Upon histological sectioning, the liver lesions revealed *C. hepatica* adults and their characteristic eggs trapped in the liver parenchyma (Fig. 1). Each adult was surrounded by macrophages, causing considerable damage to the hepatica parenchyma.

**FIGURE 1.** Section through a liver lesion containing *C. hepatica*. Notice the amount of tissue damage to the liver parenchyma surrounding the parasite. H & E stain; X 120.

*Received for publication 27 August 1973*