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Fallisia arabica sp.n. of the family plasmodiidae (*Coccidia:haemosporidia*) from the blood of the skink *Scincus hemprichii* (*Scincidae:reptilia*) in Saudi Arabia

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Fallisia arabica sp.n. is described from peripheral blood smears of the skink lizard, *Scincus hemprichii* for the first time from Jazan Province in the southwest of Saudi Arabia. Schizogony and gametogony take place within neutrophils in the peripheral blood of the host. Mature schizont is rosette shaped $17.5 \pm 4.1 \times 17.0 \pm 3.9 \mu\text{m}$, with L/W ratio of 1.03(1.02-1.05) μm and produce 24(18-26) merozoites. Young gametocytes are ellipsoidal, $5.5 \pm 0.8 \times 3.6 \pm 0.5 \mu\text{m}$, with L/W of 1.53(1.44-1.61) μm . Mature macrogametocytes are ellipsoidal, $9.7 \pm 1.2 \times 7.8 \pm 1.0 \mu\text{m}$, with L/W of 1.24(1.21-1.34) μm and microgametocytes are ellipsoidal, $7.0 \pm 1.1 \times 6.8 \pm 0.9 \mu\text{m}$. with L/W of 1.03(1.01-1.10) μm .

Biography

Alyousif M S has completed his PhD at the age of 33 years from Washington State University at Pullman, Washington in 1977. Upon returning to Saudi Arabia in the same year he joined King Saud University as an assistance professor at the Zoology Department, College of Science. He was promoted to assistant professor in 1985 and in 1992 he was promoted to full professor of Parasitology. He held several academic positions as head of Biology Department, vice-dean of College of Education and Departmental head of Zoology Department. He has published more than 60 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of College of Science Journal.

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