

## The National Collection of Animal Helminths

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Housed in the Parasites, Vectors and Vector-borne Diseases Programme of the ARC-Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, the National Collection of Animal Helminths includes the type, secondary and overseas collections of helminths of veterinary importance.



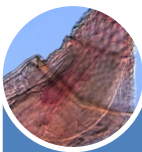
### Origins of the Collection

The collection was founded in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century through the initiative of HO Mönnig (1920s-1930s). Further contributions through the works of RJ Ortlepp (1930s-1960s), A Verster (1960s-1990s), J Boomker (1970s-2000s) and taxonomists worldwide have since expanded it into a testimony of the rich biodiversity of helminths (and other metazoan endoparasites) in South Africa and countries worldwide.



### Details

Specimens deposited in the collection comprise representatives of all major groups of helminths (trematodes, cestodes, nematodes), acanthocephalans and pentastomids. The type collection alone contains close on 200 species from all five classes of vertebrates. These hosts include wildlife as well as domesticated animals.



### Current curatorial activities

Presently, the collection is being inventoried and catalogued. A complete list of specimens will be published on this website upon completion.