

# Larval structure of Fasciola hepatica

**B.Sc First year Honours (Zoology) Paper - 1**

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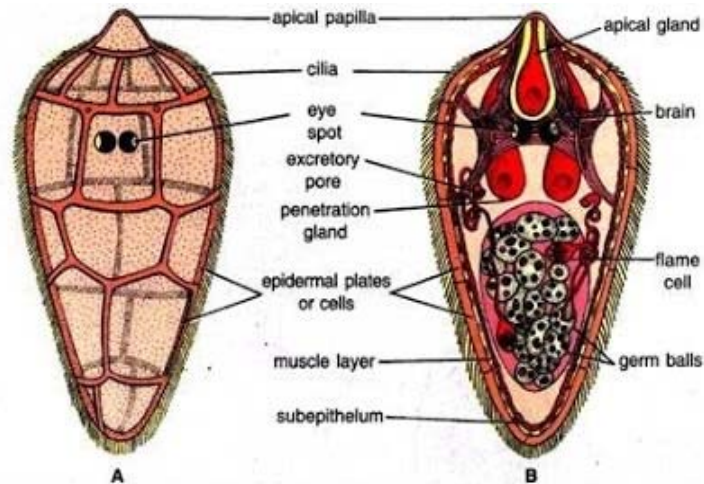
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# Miracidium

First larval stage in the life cycle of *Fasciola hepatica*.  
It swims actively in water for search of secondary host.  
0.07 mm long- oval or conical.  
Covered with 21 closely fitted hexagonal epidermal plates.



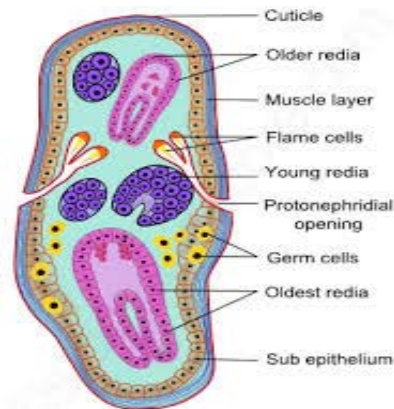
*Fasciola hepatica*. Miracidium larva. A—External structure; B—Internal structure.

# sporocyst

After 14 days miracidium loses its apical gland.

Sac like elongated.

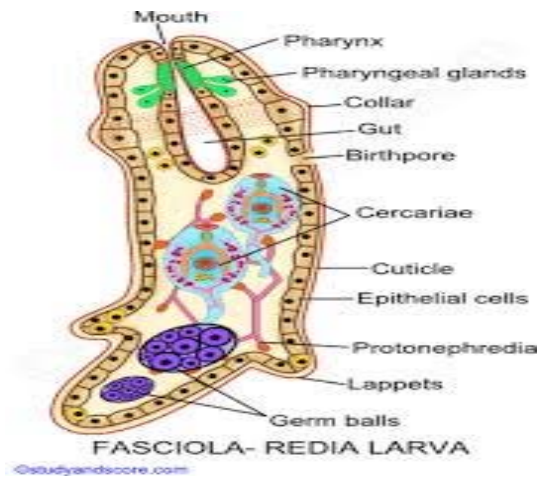
Germ cell undergo repeated division to produce redia larva.



FASCIOLA- SPORO CYST LARVA  
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# Redia

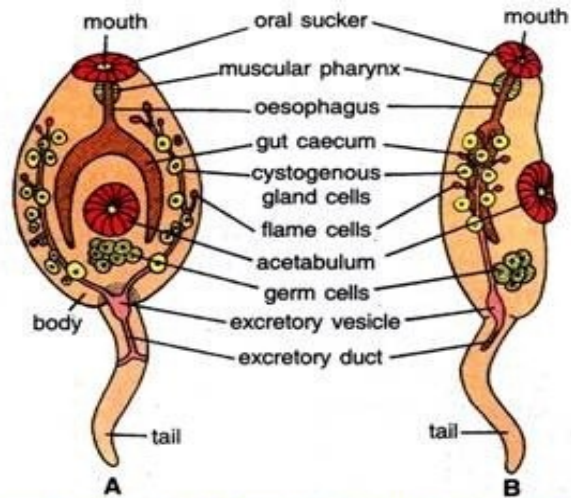
Elongated larva with a small mouth.  
A suckorial pharynx.



# Cercaria

Free swimming larval stage.

A tapering head with large penetration glands.

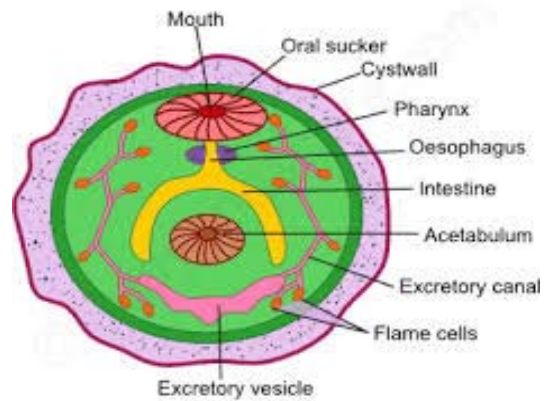


*Fasciola hepatica*. A—Cercaria in ventral view; B—Cercaria in lateral view.

# Metacercaria

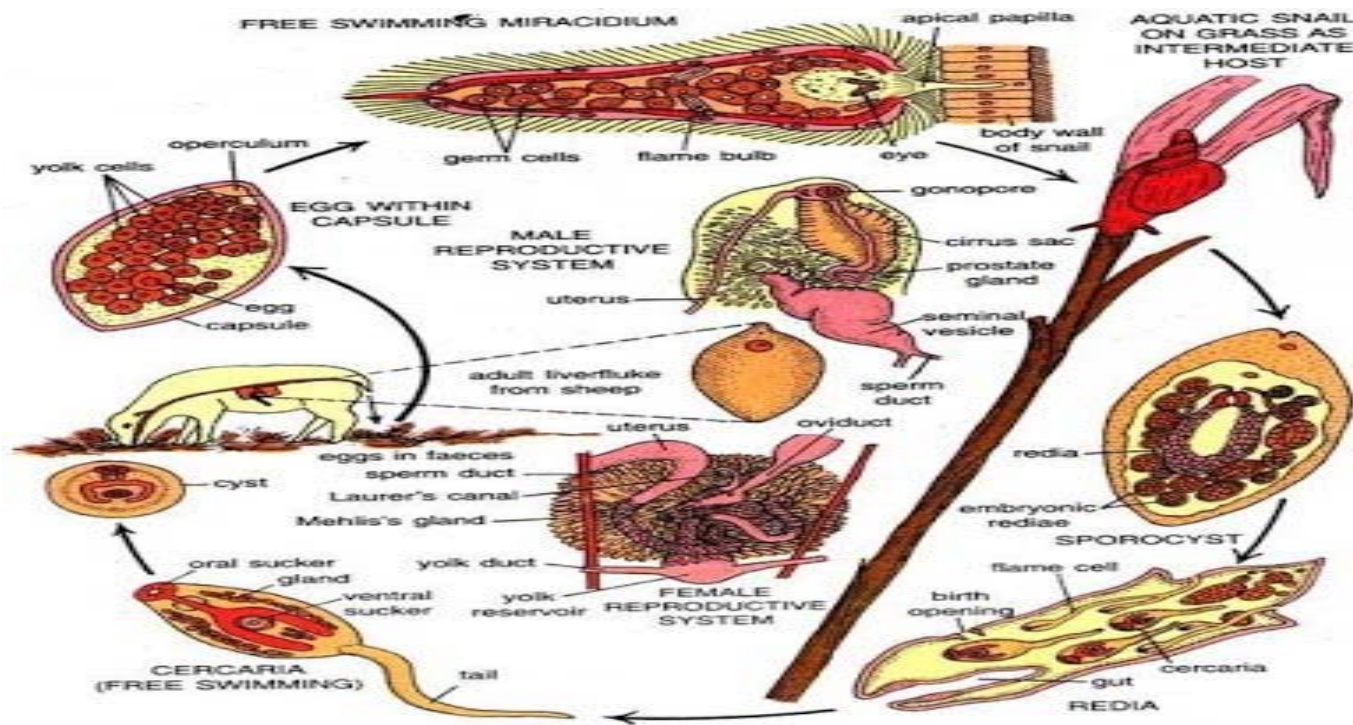
Rounded form.

A thick hard cyst wall.



FASCIOLA- METACERCARIA LARVA  
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# Fasciola hepatica life cycle



# Life cycle of Fasciola hepatica

