Mind Controlling Parasites

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What?
Lifecycle
Dicrocoelium dendriticum

• Fluke (Worm)
• Lives
• Eggs in feces
- Consumes
- Eggs Hatch
- Fights off parasites
• Eats parasites
• Mature
• Nerves
• Eaten by Cow
Emerald Cockroach Wasp
• Temporarily Paralyzes Cockroach
• Disables Escape Reflex
• Chews off antennae
• Steers
• Lays egg
• Larva
Spinochordodes tellinii

- Worm
- Infects Grasshopper
- Jumps in water
Toxoplasma gondii

• Reproduce in cats
• Infects mammals
  – Raw meat
  – Cat feces
  – Children
• Infects cats
  – Eating infected mammals
Rodent Infection

- Eliminates fear of cats
- Attracted to cat urine
Human Infection

• Females
  – More Intelligent
  – Outgoing
  – Friendly
  – More Attractive

• Males
  – Less Intelligent
  – Anti-social
  – Jealous
  – Less Attractive

• All
  – Slower Reactions
  – 2-3x car accidents
Human Infection

• Infection rate: 10%

• Are these traits beneficial to the parasite?
  – Or are you more likely to get infected?
Hymenoepimecis argyraphaga
Sacculina