

ON  
DEMODEX PHYLLOIDES, (CSOKOR,)

IN THE SKIN OF CANADIAN SWINE.

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In the *American Naturalist* for December, 1882, I announced the discovery of this Demodex in pieces of pork-skin submitted to me by Mr. R. Awde, Inspector of Food for the City of Toronto. The portion of skin was thickly studded with white tubercles, varying in size from a pin's head to a pea; these did not project much above the surface of the epidermis, but on reflecting the skin the larger ones were seen to extend into the subcutaneous tissue. The tubercles are enlarged sebaceous glands filled with hundreds of mites in various stages of development. The parts of the body chiefly affected are the mouth, cheeks, flanks, belly, and inner surfaces of the legs.

Mr. Awde asserts that one in twenty of the pigs sent in to market in Toronto during the pork season, are affected to a greater or less extent with this cutaneous parasite. In view of such frequency it is somewhat singular that its occurrence has not hitherto<sup>1</sup> been recorded elsewhere, except by Dr. J. Csokor, of the Veterinary Institute at Vienna, Austria, who found in 1879, a herd of swine from Galicia affected in this manner, and described the Demodex causing the disease as a new variety, *D. phylloides*.

The skin in these swine was, however, much more seriously affected, the collections of mites in the glands having caused the formation of subcutaneous abscesses frequently as large as a hazelnut, which in one or two cases had become confluent on the inner surfaces of the legs. Mr. Awde has never observed any such cutane-

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<sup>1</sup>After publishing the note in the *American Naturalist*, I learned that Dr. A. J. Johnson, of this city, to whom Mr. Awde had submitted specimens of affected skin, had sometime ago recognized the parasite as a Demodex, and mentioned the fact of its occurrence at the meeting of the American Microscopical Society, 1881.