

*Capillaria spp* eggs are very similar in appearance to those of *Trichuris*. However these eggs are more barrel-shaped and can be distinguished by the orientation of the bipolar plugs which in *Capillaria* are not in the same plane, i.e. they are asymmetrically opposed; also at high power magnification structures supporting the bipolar plugs are evident on either side (arrow).

*Capillaria aerophila* (*Eucoleus areophilus*) inhabits the airways; eggs are coughed up and appear in faeces. They are 60-70µm in length, and 35µm wide.



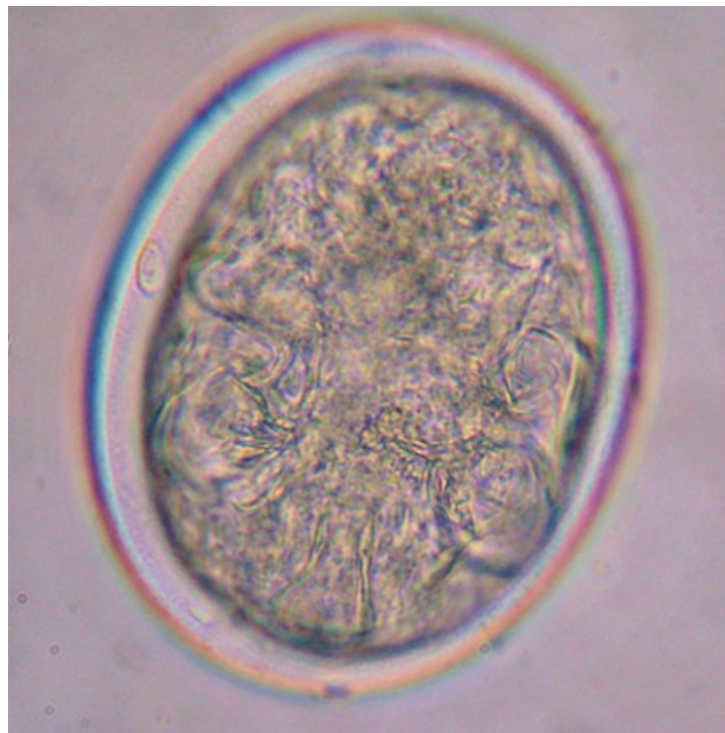
Focusing on the egg shell of *Capillaria areophila* reveals the presence of a network of raised cuticular ridges.



*Capillaria plica* inhabits the bladder of dogs, rarely cats, and eggs of this species are found only in urine. Other species include *C.putoril* which infects the stomach/small intestine of both dogs and cats.



*Linguatulla serrata* is an unusual arthropod-like parasite, the so-called 'Tongue worm'. The adults occur in the nasal cavity and sinuses of dogs and cats in warmer countries. Eggs in faeces measure approx. 90µm x 70µm and limb buds are present inside the egg.



*Spirocerca lupi* is a nematode of the oesophagus of dogs in which it causes nodules. Eggs are very small and elongate, measuring approx. 35µm x 15µm and always contain a larva when passed. To date, Tongue worms and Oesophageal worms have been reported in rescued dogs imported from



Eggs of parasitic mites, for example *Sarcoptes* (below) and those of free-living forage mites are not uncommon in faecal samples as a result of self grooming or ingestion of contaminated feed, respectively. Mites eggs are always much larger than nematode eggs approx. 300µm and the six legs of the larva may be visible within the eggs.

