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work at the Institute of Parasitology with the transfer of the Department of Parasitology from Prague to České Budějovice in 1987 when the research projects of the Department shifted focus to fish parasites. The study of free-living amoebae was included as a side project. At the beginning, we had sufficient skills in sterile laboratory work and transmission electron microscopy techniques as well as basic knowledge of methods of culturing, but we lacked experience in the observation and identification of these diverse and changeable organisms.

Each molecular data for all our isolated strains, except those strains in a cyclostation, along the corresponding samples of DNA and deposit in GenBank (the data obtained from GenBank) are available in GenBank - GDC.

The cryopreserved culture collection mentioned in this volume is a by-product of studies on free-living amoebae made within the research projects of the Institute of Parasitology, Biology Center of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. Contrary to major culture collections maintained commercially, it is based solely on the work of researchers of the Institute.