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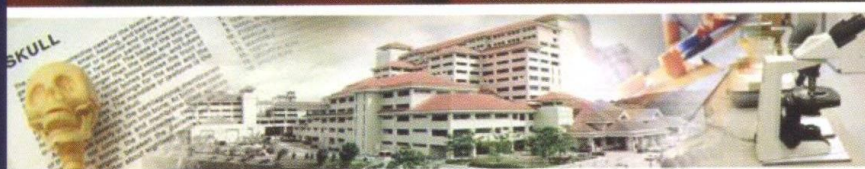


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**Y.B Datuk Rosnah Haji Abdul Rashid Shirlin**  
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## DETECTION OF INTESTINAL PARASITES IN GOATS AND CATTLE FROM AN AGRICULTURAL FARM

Tan TK<sup>1</sup>, Lee SC<sup>1</sup>, Ngui R<sup>1</sup>, Wong MT<sup>2</sup>, Sharma RSK<sup>2</sup>, Yvonne Lim LA<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Parasitology, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Veterinary Pathology and Microbiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia*

### Background:

Intestinal parasites with multiple hosts are a major problem to public health especially in hosts which have frequent contact with human. The aim of the present study is to determine the occurrence and types of intestinal parasites found in goats and cattle.

### Materials and Methods:

A total of 94 cattle and 51 goat fecal samples were collected from a farm in Serdang, Selangor. Formalin-ether concentration technique and wet mount iodine stain were used to examine the presence of intestinal parasites. In addition, modified Ziehl-Neelsen stain was utilized for the identification of coccidian protozoan. All the laboratory procedures were carried out at the Department of Parasitology, University of Malaya.

### Results:

The overall prevalence of intestinal parasitic infections accounted for 80.9% (of 94) in cattle and 80.4% (of 51) in goats. Protozoan infection was found to be higher than helminth infection in both cattle (58.8% versus 8.5%) and goats (43.1% versus 2.0%). In addition, co-infections of protozoa and helminths were also detected in 35.3% of infection in goats and 13.8% in cattle. In goats, parasites detected included *Entamoeba* sp. (66.7%), *Strongyle* (35.3%), *Giardia* sp. (15.7%), *Moniezia* sp. (7.8%), *Cryptosporidium* sp. (2.0%), *Strongyloides* sp. (2.0%), *Trichuris* sp. (2.0%) and *Fasciola* sp. (2.0%). Meanwhile in cattle, only *Entamoeba* sp. (72.3%), *Strongyle* (6.4%) and *Strongyloides* sp. (1.1%) were recorded.

### Conclusion:

The results demonstrated high prevalence of intestinal parasites especially protozoa in both goats and cattle. Given that all animals that were infected were found to be asymptomatic with moderate parasite loads, routine monitoring of the presence of parasites in animals is imperative in assisting farm managers formulate and implement effective preventive and control measures against the spread of infectious parasitic diseases to susceptible animals or to humans.

### Key words:

intestinal parasites, goats, cattle