

A SURVEY ON INTESTINAL HELMINTHS OF DOGS IN BASRAH

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Abstract:

Between October (2002) and March (2003), (30) dogs collected In Basrah city, were examined for intestinal helminthes . Six helminthes species (3 cestodes and 3 nematodes) were found . the prevalence and intensity of all these helminthes species were also recorded here .

Introduction:

It has been estimated that over (30) diseases (Bacterial , viral, Parasitic and Fungal) transmitted to man were Pet-associated (1). The most common parasites which infect dogs in the world are round worms and tap worms (*Toxocara canis* ,*Toxoascaris leonine*, *Dipylidium caninum*). Round worms are passed from dog to dog via eggs and larvae in their faces. These eggs and larvae can live in the soil for several months or even years. The dog picks them upon it's coat, paws and muzzle and then ingests them while grooming (3). Parasites such as *Toxocara sp.*, *Ancyloxtoma sp.*, *Trichurs sp.*, *Dirofilaria immitis*, *Dipylidium caninum* have all been found in man (4). Hook worms and ascarids of dogs and cats affect animals throughout the world contaminating the public places and subsequently

infections either with cutaneous larvae migrans caused by *A. caninum* and *A. brazileinasis* (5) or with visceral and ocular larvae migrans caused by *T. canis* (6).

This survey as undertaken to examine the presence and intensity of helminth parasites in the intestine of dogs in Basrah.

Materials and Methods:

During the period from October 2002 to March 2003 a total of (30) stray dogs were killed by using strygnine tablets in Basrah city .The abdomen of these dogs were dissected , the intestine was taken out after cutting from both ends (stomach to the end of rectum), then was put in dissecting dishes and cut lengthwise. Big worms that can be to seen by eye were picked up. The intestine lining was stripes out to collect the small worms under dissecting microscope, worms were fixed in 10% formalin. The isolated worms were classify according to (7 and 8).

Result:

Generally, the percentage infection of dogs with helminthes ranged between 20% in October to 80% in February (table1). The percentage infections of cestodes, nematodes and double Infections were 16.6 ,20 and 13.3% respectively (table2). The high number of nematode worms that infected dogs was *T. leonine* (14), and the lowest *T. canis* (2) , while in cestoda a high Number of worms is *Echinococcus granulosus* (7) and the lowest *D. latum* (3). The total intensity of infection was (3) : cestodes (1) and Nematodes (2) (table3).

Table(1): showing the percentage infection of dogs with helminthes in Basrah city during the period from October 2002 to March 2003

Month	No. of dogs Exam.	No. of dogs inf.	%Infection
October	5	1	20
November	5	2	40
December	7	3	42.8
January	4	2	50

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February	5	4	80
March	4	1	25
Total	30	13	43.3

Table(2) : Showing the single and double infections of dog in Basrah with helminthes during the period from October 2002 to March 2003.

Month	cestodes			nematodes			Double infection		
	No.of dogs exa.	No.of dogs inf.	%Inf.	No.of dogs exa.	No.of dogs. Inf.	%inf	No.of dogs exa.	No.dogs inf.	%inf.
October	5	1	20	5	—	—	5	—	—
November	5	1	20	5	1	20	5	2	40
December	7	—	—	7	3	42.8	7	—	—
January	4	2	50	4	—	—	4	—	—
February	5	1	20	5	1	20	5	2	40
March	4	—	—	4	1	25	4	—	—
Total	30	5	16.6	30	6	20	30	4	13.3

Table (3): showing the mean intensity infection of dogs with Cestodes and nematodes in Basrah .

Cestodes	No.	Nematodes	No.
<i>D. latum</i>	3	<i>T. canis</i>	2
<i>D. caninum</i>	6	<i>T. leonine</i>	14
<i>E. granulosus</i>	7	<i>A. caninum</i>	4
Total	16	Total	20

Discussion

Parasites can cause serious problem for all animal species. Some parasitic worms can spread from animals to human like round worms in dogs (9). The total percentage infection in the present study ranged between (20-80%) in months study .

High percentage infection of dogs with parasitic nematode was reported in United Kingdom (6). About 43%, 25.7% of dogs were infected with *T. canis* ,2.8% infected with *T. Leonina* and 11.4% infected with *A. caninum* in Mosul city (10,11) .

In Najaf region it was reported that 46% of dogs infected with *T. canis* (12). In Beigium study on dogs revealed that 17% were infected with *T. canis* and 10% were infected with *T. leonina* (13) . In Basrah the percentage infection of dogs in urban region was (33.3%). While in rural was (37%) (14) .He noticed that a percentage infection in cooled Months was higher than in hot months , moreover , he reported a 23.5% with *A. caninum* .

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مسح للديدان المعوية في كلاب محافظة البصرة

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الخلاصة:

للفترة من تشرين الاول (٢٠٠٢) واذار (٢٠٠٣) تم فحص امعاء (٣٠) كلبا في مدينة البصرة بحثا عن الديدان المعوية . لوحظت (٦) انواع منها (٣) انواع من الديدان الشريطية و(٣) انواع من الديدان الخيطية . حسبت نسبة وشدة الاصابة لجميع الديدان في هذه الدراسة .