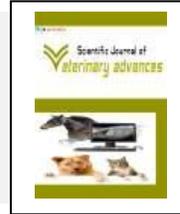


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Original article

Prevalence of setariosis in small and large ruminant in Miyaneh city, Northwest of Iran

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ABSTRACT

Nematode *Setaria* belongs to Spirurida order and Setariidae family. The adult worms live in abdominal cavity freely (without clinical signs) and their sheathed microfilar exist in blood of their definitive hosts. Microfillers lead to cerebrospinal Nematodiosis and lumbar paralysis in non-specific hosts. During a year we inspected 468 slaughtered cow and water buffalo from slaughter house of Meyaneh in East Azerbaijan province of Iran looking for adult *Setaria* Spp. and either collected 209 blood samples of them and 120 blood samples of alive native cow were collected too in order to finding microfilar infection. Adult worms were examined by light microscope and blood samples were examined with Knott method in Parasitology Laboratory of Veterinary Faculty of Tehran University. 52 (11.11%) slaughtered cases were infected by adult worms. 2.87% and 4.16% blood samples of slaughtered cases and alive cows were infected by microfilar respectively. Maximum infection was in winter and minimum infection was in autumn. It was the first survey that had been done in East Azerbaijan province and has shown that humidity and temperature have direct effect on activation of mosquitos as intermediate hosts and incidence of setariosis subsequently and setariosis exist in this area however the rate of infection are low.

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1. Introduction

Today's per capita consumption of animal protein especially red meat is one of the key economic indicators and the keeping and maintenance of livestock as a wealth, control and prevention of morbidity to different diseases is necessary. Because sheep, goats and cows are the major livestock in Iran and are exposed to parasitic diseases especially internal parasites, so vast control for these kinds of disease seems necessary (Beriajaya, 2005).

Nematode *Setaria* belongs to Spirurida order and setariidae family (Anderson et al., 2000 and Ferri et al., 2009). The adult worms live in abdominal cavity freely and their sheathed microfilariae exist in blood of their definitive hosts (Bartholomay et al., 2002). Different species have different definitive hosts such as equine for *Setaria equina* and ruminant for *S. digitata* and *S. labiatopapillosa* (Singh et al., 2013). Adult worms usually have a symbiotic relation with the host but emigrant microfilariae in non-specific hosts such as sheep, goats and horse are cause of cerebrospinal nematodiosis syndrome or lumbar paralysis (Tung et al., 2003 and Wang et al., 1986). The infection is more common in tropical zones that intermediate hosts have longer period of activity there (Soulsby, 1986). The aim of this research is to determine the prevalence of setariosis in small and large ruminants of Miyaneh city.

2. Materials and methods

Miyaneh is situated in a valley in southeast of East Azerbaijan province (coordinates, 37.27°N 47.42°E). During a year, 468 cow and water buffalo were examined. Mesenteric, external surface of stomachs and liver, bottom of abdominal cavity and pelvic cavity were completely inspected. The found worms were preserved in formalin 10% and were sent to Parasitology Laboratory of Veterinary Faculty of Tehran University. In laboratory each worm was laid on a slide and became clear with a few drops of lactophenol and then were examined by light microscope. The blood sample of 209 of these cases were collected simultaneously, 1 cc of each blood sample was poured in a tube containing 9 cc formalin 2% and were mixed slowly. In addition 120 blood samples of alive native cows were collected during those times. All of the blood samples were referred to the same laboratory and after centrifugation (5 min, 1500-200 rpm); the sediments were stained by 1-2 drops of methylene blue separately and were examined by light microscope (Eslami et al., 2010).

2 sheep with the sign of imbalance and posterior limb paralysis were necropsied and their brains were fixed in formalin 10% and sent to Pathology Laboratory of Veterinary Faculty of Tehran University for pathological examinations.

3. Results

Among 468 slaughtered cases, 52 cases (11.11%) were infected by adult *Setaria* spp. 71.13% of total worms were female *S. digitata*, 7.72% female *S. labiato-papillosa* and 21% were male *Setaria* spp (Figure 1 and 2). (81% male *S. digitata*, 19% male *S. labiato-papillosa*).

Among 209 blood samples, 6 (2.87%) were infected by microfilariae that just one of them was infected by adult and microfilariae simultaneously (Tab.1). Examination of alive cows was shown the microfilariae infection in 4.16% of cases. But pathological slides didn't show any significant sign.

In order to observe and examine we have found that maximum and minimum infection are in winter and autumn respectively but there is no significant difference between age, sex and rate of infection.

4. Discussion

Miyaneh city has semi-arid climate with many rivers, rich pasture and rice fields (figure 3). Activation of intermediate hosts around these rivers and farms are effective factors in epidemiology of this kind of disease in this area, so we selected Miyaneh for this survey.

Sheep, goats and cattle's common pasture in rural area increase the chance of parasitic infection in small ruminants (Taylor et al., 2007 and Yoshikawa et al., 1976).

Baharsefat et al. (1973) have reported cerebrospinal nematodiosis for the first time from Mazandaran province, and after that Eslami et al. (1989) have reported setariosis infection in water buffalo in West Azerbaijan province. In order to a survey in 2008 by Bazargan et al. 47% of cows in Mazandaran and 13.2% in Qazvin were infected by 1 or 2 species of *Setaria*s simultaneously that emphasizes the effect of humid and warm climate on

increase of mosquitos as an intermediate hosts for *Setaria* spp (Bazargani et al., 2008). The lower rate of infection in Meyaneh in compared with Mazandaran can be relate to lower level of raining and humidity in Meyaneh. In 2011 Eslami et.al have shown that all of ruminant in Iran are in expose of infection by 60 species of gastrointestinal nematodes that setariosis (without clinical signe) and cerebrospinal nematodiosis (with paralysis symptom) are in this group, however the rate of infection in Iran is low or moderate, can effect on livestock products. There are reported of lumbar paralysis in Taiwan (Tung et al., 2003) and *Setaria* infestation in India (Singh et al., 2013) These country have humid and warm climate and exist of infection in these area are in accordance with the investigation in Iran. There are reported of Setariosis in ruminant of Finland (Laaksonen et al., 2007 and Solismaa et al., 2008) and There is a report of congenital infection with *S. digitata* and *S. marshalli* in the thoracic cavity of a Korean calf (Kim et al., 2010) but there isn't such reported in Iran. In order to the other reported from other countries, Setariosis have shown its clinical signs in the countries with humid and warm climate.



Fig. 1. Anterior part of *setaria digitata*.



Fig. 2. Posterior part and spicules of *setaria digitata*.



Fig. 3. Rice fields in Miyaneh City.

Table1

Prevalence of setariosis in rumin.

Sample / Case	cases	Infection	Percent
slaughtered cases	468	52	11.11
Blood Samples	209	6	2.87

5. Conclusion

This survey which has done in East Azerbaijan province for the first time has shown that setariosis and cerebrospinal Nematodiosis exist in this area.

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