

PREVALENCE OF CRYPTOSPORIDIUM AT GOAT IN BANGLADESH

S. M. Abdullah*

Executive Summary

Goat are very popular backyard livestock for those people with limited resources where up to 60% of their income comes by rearing this small ruminant. Cryptosporidiosis, caused by *Cryptosporidium*, is characterized by diarrhea, dehydration, weight loss, and even death. Therefore, a study was aimed to observe the prevalence of *Cryptosporidium* in goat in Bangladesh including their OPG count as well as to assess the risk factor, such as age, sex, breed, etc. A total of 240 intestinal content were collected from slaughtered goat from Dhaka city to detect the presence of *Cryptosporidium*. Examination of these samples through sedimentation technique under a light microscope revealed 65 out of 240 samples (27.08%) were infected with *Cryptosporidium*. In our study, males (29.20%) were infected with *Cryptosporidium* more than females (19.15%). Moreover, the highest prevalence (35.51%) was seen in the younger group, followed by adult (20.30%). The findings of the present study revealed that seasons can play a vital role on the prevalence of infection in goat, with highest prevalence in Winter (32.50%), followed by Summer (26.25%) and Rainy season (22.50%). In addition to this, average OPG of this study over 65 samples was calculated at 266.67 where the highest OPG count was found in Winter (323.01%), followed by Summer (247.62%) and Rainy (210.53%). In conclusion, cryptosporidiosis is one of the health problems of goats in Bangladesh. Our findings confirmed that age was found to have a significant effect on the occurrence of *Cryptosporidium* infection. Therefore, proper management should be implemented to the control of the disease in the study area.

*Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.