SEASONAL VARIATION OF MONIEZIA, IN CAPRA HIRCUS FROM AURANGABAD DISTRICT (MS) INDIA

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ABSTRACT

As a part of study, we examined total 404 samples for cestode infection in the period of June-2005 to May-2007 from Aurangabad district (M.S), out of total samples 163 (40.34%) samples were positive for infection of *Moniezia* (Cestoda). The seasonal variation of gastro-intestinal cestode *Moniezia* shows the higher prevalence which occurs in winter (56.55%) followed by summer (51.05%) and low prevalence found in Monsoon (13.53%). The environmental factors, feeding habitat and availability of intermediate hosts are responsible for seasonal variation of cestode infection in *Capra hircus*.

Key Words: - Seasonal variation, Capra hircus, Moniezia, Aurangabad

INTRODUCTOON

Aurangabad district is located between latitude N 190 53'47"- E 750 23' 54" and altitude range from sea level is 515 meter above. Agro-climatically, the district is divided into 9 Tahsils (Aurangabad, Kannad, Khultabad, Gagapur, Paithan, Phulambri, Vaijapur, Sillod and Soygaon). The mean monthly temperature are vary from 12 ± 3 °C in Winter to 42 ± 4 °C in Summer respectively and the average annual rainfall is 750mm and climate of district is hot and humid. The 65% population in rural directly depends on Agriculture and Animal husbandry. The parasitic infection affecting the gastrointestinal tract of domesticated small ruminants like Sheep and Goat, often without clinical manifestation are major causes of loss in production (Arora 1967). The incidence of cestode infection varies with age, sex, season and agroclimatic conditions. Epidemiological survey of cestode infection is an important work for controlling losses due to cestode by using effective control measures like deworming the herd by selecting proper broad spectrum and helminthic drug (Singh 2001). The present study is the seasonal prevalence of Moniezia (Cestoda) in Capra hircus.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The total 404 intestines of *Capra hircus* were collected from slaughter houses of different locations of Aurangabad district during June, 2005 to May 2007 the intestines were examined for cestode infection. The genus *Moniezia* was identified by taxonomically and recorded data seasonally means collected and counted the population of cestode parasites and preserved in Formalin for further study. Calculations are based on following formula.

Prevalence of infection= Infected host /Total hosts examined x 100

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present result indicates out of 404 samples about 163 (40.34%) are infected with cestode parasites. The seasonal variation of gastrointestinal cestode infection shows the higher prevalence of parasites in winter (56.55%) followed by Summer (51.00%) and low in Monsoon (13.53%).

The infection of cestode parasites in Capra hircus is an important because they cause economic losses due to condemnation of infection (Bekele et al. 1992). Sissay. et al. (2007) described same results in Capra hircus and Ovis bharal from Eastern, Ethiopia. Experimental studies by Kennedy (1976) shown the cestode Caryophyllaceous lattices can establish in fish and survive for longer period at low temperature is a major controlling factor of seasonal periodicity of infection. The seasonal variation of parasite population dynamics has been described in a number of studies in many African countries (Assoku 1981, Vercruysse 1983, Van Wyk 1985, Pandey et al. 1994, Nginyi et al. 2001). The rapid translation of eggs occurs throughout most of the rainy season and grazing animals acquires the highest infection during this time and parasite come at maturity in winter season. The seasonal fluctuation in number and availability of the infective larval stages are also influenced by level of contamination. The latter is controlled by biotic potential (fecundity) of adult parasite in host, the density of stocking and immune status. Soulsby 1982, Hansen and Perry 1994, Urguhart et al, 1996 reported helminthes infections in small ruminants depends on many variables including the presence of suitable intermediate host as

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Name of seasons	Total no. of sample examined	No. of infected samples	Prevalence (%)
Monsoon	133	18	13.53
Winter	122	69	56.55
Summer	149	76	51.006

Table 1: Showing the seasonal variation of *Moniezia* (Cestoda) in *Capra hircus* during June, 2005 to May, 2007 from Aurangabad district.

well as favorable climatic and ecological conditions for them. The present result correlates with the result of Sissay Menkir Mekonnen (2007) they reported that the worm burdens during the wet seasons were significantly higher than during the dry season. winter seasons followed by summer and low in monsoon. The high infection in winter due to in this season parasites attain maturity and grazing period of that host and favorable conditions like temperature, moisture and humidity of development of parasites.

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After the analysis of data the present study shows the high infection of *Moniezia* in *Capra hircus* is occurring in

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CONCLUSION

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