



Presence of helminth species in horses from the Third Division of Cavalry in Curuguaty, Paraguay

Patricia Larroza¹, Laura Portillo¹, Antonio Rodríguez², **Jorge Miret¹**

¹Facultad de Ciencias Agropecuarias y Ambientales (FCAA). Universidad Nacional de Canindeyú (UNICAN), Curuguaty, Paraguay; ²Centro de Diagnóstico Veterinario del Paraguay (CEDIVEP), San Lorenzo, Paraguay. E-mail: jorgemiret@gmail.com

The equine specie can be affected by a great variety of helminths, including several families and genera that could potentially damage organs of the digestive tract and cause severe disorders in enzymatic and hormonal processes. The helminth infection can lead to direct or indirect losses relating to late grown of the horses, inferior performance of athletic horses or even death. The aim of this study was to identify infected horses with endoparasite in the Third Division of Cavalry and the later quantification of parasite's egg by the McMaster method and by identification of helminth's species by larval culture. All the horses were orally dewormed 60 days before the test with fenbendazole 10% (Febenlasca 10%, Lascavet®. División Veterinaria. Fernando de la Mora, Paraguay). It was observed the presence of gastrointestinal strongyle and *Parascaris equorum* eggs in 19/22 horses (86.36%) with an egg's concentration from 100-12.400 eggs per gram by the MacMaster method. The fecal culture (Robert & O'Sullivan), showed the presence of *Strongyloides* sp, *Strongylus equinus*, *Strongylus edentatus*, *Strongylus vulgaris*, *Cyathostomum* sp and *Trichostrongylus axei*. The high incidence of helminths parasite in horses showed the need of proper use of broad spectrum anthelmintics such as benzimidazoles or macrocyclic lactones in order to achieve a real reduction in worm populations, particularly large and small strongyles from an epidemiological and clinic perspective of the gastrointestinal parasitic disease in horses from the Third Division of Cavalry in the city of Curuguaty, Canindeyú Department, Paraguay.

Keywords : helminth, horses, Paraguay