PREVALENCE OF TRYPANOSOME INFECTIONS IN SHEEP, GOATS AND CATTLE SLAUGHTERED IN SOME ABATTOIRS IN KADUNA, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT
The prevalence of trypanosome infections in trade cattle, goats and sheep was investigated in Kaduna Abattoirs. Wet, thin, thick films, haematocrit centrifugation technique and buffy coat methods were used to detect trypanosomes in the jugular blood of the animals. The Packed Cell Volume (PCV) was determined using haematocrit centrifugation technique. A total of 245 cattle, 255 goats and 84 sheep were examined during the three months period of investigation. The overall prevalence of trypanosome infections in cattle, goats and sheep were 8.6%, 6.6% and 0%, respectively. Trypanosoma vivax infection accounted for 15%, T. brucei 25% and T. congolense 60% in cattle. In goats, T. vivax infection accounted for 5.9%, T. brucei 41.2% and T. congolense 52.9% while T. vivax, T. brucei and T. congolense in sheep was 0.00%. Packed Cell Volume for infected and uninfected cattle was 20.11% and 32.08%; goats 20.20% and 30.05% respectively. Sheep had 0% prevalence therefore there was no comparison made but the Packed Cell Volume for the uninfected was 31.85%. Sex did not significantly (P>0.05) associate with infection. Although the prevalence of trypanosomes in cattle, goats and sheep appeared low compared with the previous works, natural trypanosomiasis remains economically important in cattle, goats and sheep in Nigeria.

Keywords: Prevalence, trypanosome, sheep, goat, cattle
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