

Summary of the MSc thesis No; 14848 , Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Urmia University

The academic year: 2023-2024

Author: Somayyeh Shirzadfar

Title of thesis:

Study on ectoparasite infestation on dogs of Urmia suburb

Abstract:

Canine infestation of ectoparasites is of medical and veterinary importance worldwide and in Iran due to transmission of pathogen agents. The present study was aimed to determine prevalence and species diversity of ectoparasites in dogs of Urmia. A total of 138 dogs (39 stray dogs, 99 sheepdogs, and 21 pets) were randomly selected and examined from July 2022 to July 2023. The body surface was investigated for ectoparasites (ticks, mites, lice and fleas). These parasites were removed directly from the skin of examined dogs and identified. The results indicated that 65 sheepdogs (47.11%) and 43 watchdogs (31.16%) were infested with ectoparasites. The results showed that out of a total of 138 dog collars studied, 57 collars (41.30%) were infected with external parasites. Out of 57 dog infected with external parasites, 32 dogs (56.14%) were infected with ticks, 16 dogs (28.07%) were infected with mites, 5 dogs (8.77%) were infected with fleas and 4 dogs (7.01 percent) were infected with lice. There was a significant difference between prevalence and sex and age of examined dogs ($p \leq 0.05$). In this study, the highest level of contamination with external parasites was seen in the spring season. The results of this study showed that ectoparasites are common in dogs in the region, that these parasites can be transmitted to humans and act as vectors for the spread of infectious agents in the region.

Keyword: ectoparasites, dog, Urmia

