

**Abstract of the DVM thesis No. 19220. Faculty of veterinary medicine, Urmia University, The Academic year 2023-24**

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**Title of thesis: A survey on frequency and Eimeria species diversity in sheep of Rasht**

**Abstract:**

*Eimeria* infection in ruminants is common throughout the world and Iran. This study was aimed to determine frequency and diversity of *Eimeria* species in sheep of Rasht municipality, Iran. A total of 280 fecal samples were collected using cluster sampling method from spring 2023 to 2024. The intensity of infection was determined based on *Eimeria* oocyst per gram of feces (OPG) using Clayton-Lane and McMaster methods. *Eimeria* species diversity and frequency were also determined by using oocyst sporulation in 2% potassium dichromate. Of all examined, 83 (29.64%) animals were infected with *Eimeria* species. Of all examined sheep, six *Eimeria* species were identified, i.e. *E. intricata* (40.96%), *E. parva* (25.30%), *E. faurei* (14.45%), *E. ovina* (10.84%), *E. ahsata* (6.02%), and *E. pallida* (2.4%) were identified. There was significant difference between prevalence of *Eimeria* infection and sex, age and fecal consistency. The results of the current study elucidated that different *Eimeria* species were prevalent in sheep of Rasht municipality.

**Keywords:** Coccidiosis, Eimeria, Sheep, Ras

