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THE PREVALENCE OF HELMINTH INFECTION AMONG CATTLE IN TERENGGANU, MALAYSIA

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BY

RITA D/O NADARASAN

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Main Supervisor : Khadijah Binti Saad, Ph.D.

School : School of Food Science and Technology

A study was conducted to determine the prevalence of helminth infections in cattle located in Terengganu, Malaysia. The samplings were carried out in Kuala Terengganu, Hulu Terengganu, Setiu, Dungun, Kemaman, Besut and Marang. A total of 219 faecal samples and 214 blood samples were collected from the cattle. The faecal samples were subjected to modified McMaster method, faecal culture and sedimentation. The blood samples were centrifuged and the sera were collected for serological test. Results indicated that, out of 219 animals diagnosed 93% was found to be positive for liver fluke, 61% was found to be positive for rumen fluke and 52% were found to be positive for co-infection of liver fluke and rumen fluke [$\chi^2(2, N = 120) = 41, p<0.05$]. Serological test revealed 82% of liver fluke infection. Faecal egg counts (FEC) for nematodes were ranged from 0 – 800 e.p.g. The mean faecal egg count was 21.5 ± 4.5 e.p.g. The most prevalent nematodes reported were *Haemonchus* (80%), *Trichostrongylus* (16%) and *Oesophagostomum* (4%), [$\chi^2(2, N = 100) = 104, p < 0.05$]. This study shows higher prevalence of liver fluke infection compare to rumen fluke and nematode infection. Therefore, this study revealed that liver fluke infection is an on-going problem in cattle

located in Terengganu, which can lead to economic losses for the farmers. Further studies focusing on overall infection level of liver fluke in Malaysia is therefore suggested.