

SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT OF MIXED PARASITIC INFECTION IN A GOAT- A CASE REPORT

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SUMMARY

The present report describes successful management of mixed gastrointestinal parasitic infection with coccidia, strongyles and *Strongyloides* spp in a 3 years old goat. The goat was presented with the complaint of anorexia and impaction. Administration of parenteral ampicillin and cloxacillin combination and liver extract and oral sulfadiazine-trimethoprim and albendazole resulted into clinical recovery within 3 days.

Key words: Coccidiosis, gastrointestinal-parasitism, goat

Gastrointestinal parasitism in goats is of considerable economic importance due to high morbidity and mortality rates (Bandyopadhyay, 1999). It is one of the major factors responsible for lowered disease resistance, loss of production and hence is a major limiting factor for goat productivity in India (Chhabra, 1983; Yadav *et al.*, 2007). The present report describes successful management of mixed parasitic infection in a goat.

A goat aged 3 years was presented with history of anorexia and abdominal pain. The animal did not pass faeces for past two days. Clinical examination revealed rectal temperature of 102.6^o F, pale mucous membrane, dullness and mild dehydration. However, heart and respiration rates were within the normal range.

Both blood and faecal samples were collected for laboratory examination. The blood picture revealed haemoglobin (11.1g%), total leukocyte count (17610 cells/mm³), total erythrocyte count (17.8×10⁶/mm³), packed cell volume (28.6%) and platelets (3.89×10³/mm³) indicating neutrophilic leukocytosis alongwith increased platelets. Faecal sample was found positive for coccidia oocysts, strongyles alongwith few strongyloides eggs.

Ampicillin and cloxacillin (500 mg IM twice daily), liver supplement (inj Livadex, 2 ml, IM once daily) and sulfadiazine-trimethoprim bolus (Biotrim, half bolus orally twice daily) were given for 3 days. Tab.

albendazole 200 mg was also given orally once. There was improvement in the condition of the animal after 3 days; the animal started taking feed and water normally.

Amongst the parasitic diseases, endoparasites are of greatest importance in goats. The most frequently detected gastrointestinal parasites in goats are Strongyles followed by coccidia, *Strongyloides* and *Trichostrongylus* spp (Rumosa-Gwaze *et al.*, 2009).

These parasites may hamper growth rate, and cause diarrhea with or without blood, low-grade abdominal pain, gradual onset of weakness, inappetance, fleece damage, mild fever, recumbency, emaciation and death with a course of 1-3 weeks (Radostits *et al.*, 2007). In present case, combined infection of coccidia, strongyles and strongyloides may be responsible for constipation, dullness, weakness and anorexia. *E. arloingi*, *E. christenseni* and *E. ovinoidalis* are important coccidia of goats (Balicka-Ramisz, 1999). Sulfadiazine and trimethoprim combination has been advocated for treatment of coccidiosis in goats (Radostits *et al.*, 2007; Cook, 2012). In the present case, faecal samples collected after one week of treatment were found negative for coccidia oocysts as well as parasitic eggs. Albendazole is highly effective against strongyloides and strongyle parasites (Egual *et al.*, 2009).

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