

CATTLE SLAUGHTERHOUSE AND FIELD STUDIES ON THE CALICOPHORON DAUBNEYI (DINNIK, 1962) EDUARDO, 1983 INFECTION (NW SPAIN)

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The aim was to study Paramphistomosis in cattle in Galicia (NW Spain). Monthly slaughterhouse studies were carried out for one year, in 445 cows from 390 farms throughout the region. The worms found in the pre-stomach (rumen/reticulum) of each cow were collected, counted and identified. A coprological analysis was carried out for each animal. Based on the slaughterhouse results 3 cattle farms were chosen to follow monthly kinetic of parasite egg elimination by cattle, mollusc intermediate host infection and parasite development. Moreover, 28 fallow deer hunted in the study area were examined.

Calicophoron daubneyi worms were found in 16.3% of the studied pre-stomachs and the no. of worms/per animal was 1-10000 (mean 850.5). The infection prevalence increased significantly ($P<0.05$) with animal age (2-5; 6-7; 8-10; >10 years), but not the parasitic burden. The coprological analysis showed high sensitivity (83.0%). A statistically significant positive correlation was observed between the no. of eggs per gram (epg) and the parasitic burden.

On the 3 farms the cows eliminating eggs were 27, 86 and 100% and the epg (mean) was 2, 6 and 52. The no. of *Galba truncatula* (mollusc) examined and their infection % were: 847, 0.23%; 625, 0%; 162, 3.08%. The highest epg elimination was observed in December-October and the mature cercariae in August-September. No infection was detected in fallow deer. Work supported by the Spanish INIA (FAU2006-00021-C03-00).