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Degree Awarded : M.V.Sc
Year of Award : 2003
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Title of Thesis : Studies on the pattern of gastro-intestinal parasitism and its management in equines of Kangra valley.

Abstract

The contribution of equine population of our country is well accepted in the field of transportation, sports, stamina in battle field, recreation, ceremonial parades in addition to livelihood of many families. The present study was carried out to monitor the epidemiology of Helminths in equines of various areas of Palam valley and to study the clinical, haematological and biochemical alterations as well as to evaluate the efficacy of the drugs Fenbendazole and Closantel. Based on the studies, overall prevalence of gastro intestinal helminthiasis was 87.6 per cent (356/406). Among equines, the horses, mules and donkeys had 85 per cent, 87.9 per cent and 94.1 per cent infection respectively. In animals ≤ 5 yrs of age, the incidence was 90.69 per cent while in animals ≥ 5 yrs of age it was 84.62 per cent. The prevalence was found maximum in the months of June (97.1 per cent) and minimum in the months of January and February. (75 per cent). Strongyle infection dominated the other helminthic infection i.e. parascaris, oxyuris and the gastrodiscus. It was 73.9 per cent, 81.6 per cent and 90.37 per cent in the rainy, winter and the summer seasons respectively. In rainy and winter seasons, the donkeys had maximum infection (100 per cent) while in summer the mules had maximum (94.79 per cent). Significant changes were seen in the haemoglobin, respiration rate, plasma albumin, globulin, total protein in equines with helminthic infection i.e. before and after treatment. Fenbendazole proved more effective than Closantel against the Helminths particularly strongyles in equines.