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MODERN
TRENDS
IN LIVESTOCK
PRODUCTION

P R O C E E D I N G S

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PARASITES CONTAMINANT OF GOAT MEAT

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Review paper

Abstract. Goat meat consumed in all parts of the world because of its distinctive taste and desired chemical composition. This meat is rich in protein, vitamins and minerals; it contains very little fat, especially cholesterol and is healthier alternative compared to other types of red meat. The quality of the meat of goats is influenced by breed, gender, productivity and adaptability to stress, environment, management, nutrition, body weight at slaughter and health status as well as the slaughter and procedures with the body after slaughter. In addition, quality also affected by parasitic, bacterial and viral etiology contaminants, which may condition that the meat of these animals is unusable for human consumption and therefore should take care of them. In muscle and edible internal organs of small ruminants, we found adult and developmental forms of the parasite. In the muscles and organs of the most common encountered cyst of zoonotic protozoa *Toxoplasma gondii*. In the liver, we found *Fasciola hepatica* and *Dicrocoelium dendriticum*. In the brain occurred *Coenuris cerebralis* (cyst form of *Multiceps multiceps*) Hydatid cysts (cyst stage of *Echinococcus granulosus*) we encountered by the liver, lungs, kidneys, muscles and other internal organs. Cysticercosis caused by *Taenia ovis* and *T.hydatigena* luck of the liver, omentum and muscle.

Their presence leads to a change in the organoleptic characteristics of the food and hygiene failure causing elimination of food from the market and therefore leads to major economic losses.

Key words: goats, meat, parasites, contamination, zoonoses

Introduction

Goats play an important role in many part of Serbia in providing animal protein for diet, especially for those people who live in village at mountains part of

this area. Goats are milked and they produce the bulk milk supply, together with a large proportion of the meat that is consumed (*Ivanović and Pavlović, 2015*).

The quality of the meat of goats is influenced by breed, gender, productivity and adaptability to stress, environment, management, nutrition, body weight at slaughter and health status as well as the slaughter and procedures with the body after slaughter. In addition, quality also affected by parasitic, bacterial and viral etiology contaminants, which may condition that the meat of these animals is unusable for human consumption and therefore should take care of them.

Way of breeding of goats had prerequisite to many infections including parasitoses. They are usually kept under extensive conditions and graze or brows on any land that is not being cultivated (*Vlassoff et al., 2001, Ash and Truong, 2003, Pavlović et al., 2012a,b*). After harvesting, the animals are turned onto wheat and barley stubble from which they obtained nourishment. At last decade urban and peri-urban livestock, some households in cities around the world have hailed keeping as a source of livelihood. With the limited grazing spaces, urban farmers have opted for animals that require less space such as small ruminants and pigs. Further, that kind of the breeding of small ruminants (goats and sheep) increased during last decade worldwide. Pasture breeding make possible contact goat within eggs, larvae stages and intermediate host of parasites or ectoparasites like mange or ticks (*Truong and Baker, 1998; Truong et al., 2000; Pavlović et al., 2003a, b; 2012c*)

Those induce that there are no one goats without parasites. Their presence leads to a change in the organoleptic characteristics of the food and hygiene failure causing elimination of food from the market and therefore leads to major economic losses (*Jovanović et al., 2012*).

In our paper, we present the most important parasite species whose presence affects the quality of meat goats and leads to rejection of infected organs on the slaughter line, which affects the profitability of goat production. Besides, some parasitic disease gives rise to human diseases.

TOXOPLASMOSIS

Toxoplasmosis is parasitic zoonosis caused by protozoa *Toxoplasma gondii*. Primarily hosts was animals from family Felidae and like intermediate hosts perzistant at 280 species of mammals, birds and reptile (*Acha and Szyfres, 1989*). During human infection *T.gondii* was clasified with citomegolviruses and rubeola virus like most dengerous and most usually infection of pregnat women (*Pavlović and Ivanović, 2005, 2006a*).

Infection with *T.gondi* occured by ingestion of infected tissues or oocysts of *T.gondii* (fecal contamination) and by congenital way. At intermediate hosts we

have not entered the cystiform part of development. Route of infection and free of sporozoites which intracellularly replicated in enteral epithelium and belonging lymph nodes where formed tachyzoites which via blood transported to tissues (brain, muscles, liver) where formed cysts which contain thousands of tachyzoites and bradyzoites. Those tissues were infective to definitive and intermediate hosts (Kapperud *et al.*, 1996)

T. gondii was recognized as a significant cause of abortion of small ruminants. Abortion, stillbirths and neonatal mortality occur when susceptible goats are infected during pregnancy. Infection in early gestation leads to death and resorption of the fetus and can be mistaken for infertility (Dubey, 1990; Oréfić and Bonfiol, 2000). Infection in middle gestation more likely to cause abortion and birth of weak kids, while infection in late gestation results in the birth of live, infected and immune kids (Pavlović and Ivanović, 2005). At necropsy, macro pathological changes were most significant at placenta – focal inflammation and necrosis of fetal cotyledon. In fetus we found changes in brain – focal chronic inflammation, unipurulent encephalitis and central calcification. At liver we found focal granulomatosis, at lung necrosis and intestinal myocarditis (Dubey and Kirkbride, 1990; Tenter *et al.*, 2000).

Today we have several methods to diagnose *T. gondii*. Serological detection of antibodies in goat sera. High level of IgG occurred immediately after infection and they persist several months. Necropsy and pathological changes present reliable signs of toxoplasmosis and use in all suspected cases of infection. Finally, goat meat was examined by digestive methods to presence of cyst of toxoplasma (Butko and Kostenko, 1983; Pavlović and Ivanović, 2006a).

Helminths are the largest group of parasites of goats. Although infections with plathelminths are less frequent, related to gastrointestinal helminths, they can also cause serious health problems. This group presented fluke - fasciolosis, distomatosis and paramphistomiasis and larval forms of canidae tapeworm who generating cysts in the internal organs of goats.

FASCIOLOSIS

Fasciola hepatica (liver fluke) is leaf-shaped trematode measured $30 \times 2-12$ mm. The common liver fluke occurs worldwide but is particularly abundant in humid regions with temperate climate where it can be endemic (Boray, 2007). Adult flukes produce eggs in the biliary ducts of their hosts. Eggs are passed in the feces, and miracidia develop within in as little as 9–10 days. Hatching only occurs in water, and miracidia are short-lived and must infect lymnaeid snails at next 2-3 hours. In snail, started asexual development and multiplication occur through the stages of sporocysts, rediae, daughter rediae, and cercariae. Cercariae emerge from

snails, encyst on aquatic vegetation, and become metacercariae (Maingi *et al.*, 1997).

Metacercariae may remain viable for many months unless they become desiccated. The incidence of fasciolosis is highest in years when rainfall is above average during May–July (Hurtrez-Bousses *et al.*, 2001). The epidemiology of liver fluke is often viewed as the result of two distinct cycles of snail infection and pasture contamination (Mayberry and Casey, 2001). After ingestion by the host, usually with herbage, young flukes excyst in the duodenum, penetrate the intestinal wall, and enter the peritoneal cavity, migrating through the liver tissues and crossing the wall of the bile ducts cause the major harm (Pavlović *et al.*, 2011a). This process destroys the tissues and causes bleeding. Once in the biliary ducts they complete their development to adult flukes and start producing eggs.

Liver fluke disease in goats occurs in three main clinical forms – acute, subacute and chronic fasciolosis. Which form occurs depends on the numbers of infective metacercariae ingested and the period of time over which they are ingested. There are no typical and easily recognizable symptoms of a liver fluke infection. The major symptoms are related with the inflammation of the liver (hepatitis) and of the bile ducts (cholangitis) that can be also due to other disorders (Hurtrez-Bousses *et al.*, 2001; Mayberry and Casey, 2001).

Acute fasciolosis caused by the sudden migration of many immature flukes through the liver, which leads to complete organ failure. It can develop in healthy animals that may be killed in a few days. Chronic fasciolosis is develops along the gradual establishment of adult flukes in the bile ducts. It is characterized by the progressive development of such symptoms as anemia edema often as "bottle jaw", digestive disturbances and cachexia. Goats do not appear to develop resistance to infection, and chronic liver damage is cumulative over several years (Kagira and Kanyari, 2001, Pavlović *et al.*, 2011a).

DICROCELIOSIS

Dicrocoelium dendriticum, the lancet liver fluke, is slender 6–10 mm long × 1.5–2.5 mm wide parasites. They have an indirect life cycle with two intermediate hosts, a snail (*Theba* spp, *Zebrina* spp, or *Cionella* spp) and an ant. The eggs shed by adult flukes reach the host's gut with the bile and are expelled with the feces (Kagira and Kayari, 2001; Manga-González *et al.*, 2003). Once outside the host terrestrial snails ingest the eggs. Inside the snails young miracidia hatch out of the eggs, develop to sporocysts, which on their turn multiply asexually, producing daughter sporocysts which can produce up to cercariae that it remains inside the snail. The snail encysts these cercariae and expels them in the form of sticky slime balls that adhere to the vegetation. Ant (species *Formica* spp

or *Lasius* spp) second intermediate host, ingested slimeballs of cercariae (*Alunda and Rojo-Vázquez, 1983; Sotiraki et al. 2007; Pavlović et al., 2012d*). Inside the ants, most cercariae continue their development to metacercariae in the abdominal cavity. One or two metacercariae in the subesophageal ganglion of the ant cause abnormal behavior in which the ants climb up and remain on the tips of the herbage where they attach themselves, which increases the probability of ingestion by the definitive host.

Once ingested, the metacercariae excyst in the small intestine, migrate up the main bile duct, and then on to smaller ducts (*Mayberry and Casey, 2001; Palić, 2001*). Severe pathologic changes occur within the liver and bile ducts, including cirrhosis, abscesses, and granulomas. Clinical signs are not obvious but may be seen in massive infections (*Pavlović et al., 2012d; Ivanović and Pavlović, 2015*). *D.dendriticum* is part of a group of flukes that can infect the bile ducts of humans.

COENUROSIS

Coenurosis is a disease of the brain and spinal cord caused by the intermediate stage of *Taenia multiceps*. Adults tapeworms occur in the small intestine of dogs and wild carnivores, and can reach lengths of up to 1 metre. (*Pavlović, 1994, Pavlović et al., 2008; Cirović et al., 2015a,b*).

When the proglottides burst, the eggs are disseminated in the environment contaminating pastures and water supplies. The intermediate host (sheep) ingests eggs expelled with dog faeces. The larvae hatch in the intestine and pass with the blood stream towards different organs. The larvae, which reach the brain and spinal cord, grow to the *coenurid* stage. *Coenurus cerebralis* will further mature in the brain and spinal cord (*Welchman and Bekr-Ochir, 2006; Oryan et al., 2014*). Only those parasites, which reach the nervous system, will develop into a fully developed *Coenurus* in 7 to 8 months. The definitive host (dog) gets infected by eating infected sheep tissue.

At acute infection in lambs may occur meningoencephalitis because of migration of large numbers of immature stages of this parasite. The chronic stages develop because of increased destruction of brain and spinal cord tissue as the *Coenurus* grows. The neurological clinical signs are recognised as "gid" or "stagers" and are dependent on the location of the cyst in the central nervous system (*Giadinis et al., 2005; Nourani and Kheirabadi, 2009; Polizopoulou et al., 2016*). Sheep at the chronic stage of the infection may show circular movements, jerky movements or staggering gait (*Pavlović et al., 2017*).

HYDATIDOSIS

Hydatid disease is an infection caused by tapeworms of the genus *Echinococcus*, a tiny tapeworm just a few millimeters long. They reproduce releasing eggs into the environment in the faeces of the host animal (*Constantine et al., 1993*). Like all tapeworms, the life cycle involves two animals. A carnivore is the definitive host – where the adult worms live in the intestines – and almost any mammal, including humans, can be the intermediate host - where the worms form cysts in various organs (*Pavlović and Ivanović, 2006b; Pavlović et al., 2011b*).

The intermediate host ingests the eggs incidentally while grazing, foraging or drinking. The eggs hatch in the small intestine, become larvae, which penetrate the gut wall, and are carried in the circulatory system to various organs. There the cysts, called hydatid cysts or metacestodes, are formed (*Thompson and Lymbery, 1995*). The disease symptoms are caused by the cysts, which are slow growing fluid-filled structures that contain the larvae and are most often located in the liver or lungs. Called hydatid cysts, for *E. granulosus*, they act like tumours that can disrupt the function of the organ where they are found, cause poor growth, reduced production of milk and meat, and rejection of organs at meat inspection (*Jiménez et al., 2002; Roming, 2005*).

However, the cysts grow slowly so that many infected animals are slaughtered before the cysts ever cause disease problems. There may however be multiple cysts of *E. granulosus* which can also occur in the brain, kidneys, bones, or testes causing more severe illness. Without control measures, infection rates can be very high in livestock and dogs, with associated significant incidence in humans (*Pavlović and Ivanović, 2006b; Brunetti and Filice, 2008*).

CISTICERCOSIS

Cysticercosis is a disease caused by the larval forms of tapeworm species of which commonly encountered by *Taenia hydatigena* and *T. ovis*.

Taenia hydatigena

This tapeworm lives in the small intestine of dogs, foxes and other carnivores and was long 1.5-5 m (*Pavlovic, 1994; Pavlovic et al., 2008*). In mature tapeworms are eggs that excreted into the environment. Infection occurs with parasite eggs. In the gastro-intestinal tract of intermediate host oncospheres eggs, penetrate the intestinal wall and get into the peritoneal cavity (*Pathak et al., 1982*). Then occur bleeding on the surface of the liver and then in the parenchyma. In these channels leads to the destruction of the liver parenchyma, the accumulation

of fibrin and red blood cells and the developing worm-like larvae that for a couple of weeks coming to the surface of the liver. Hence the switch to omentum and mesentery, where end development. In addition to liver and mesentery, larvae encountered other organs, most in lungs (*Manfredi et al., 2006*). There the larvae are fixed and form cysts known as *Cysticercus tenuicollis*. These cysts are long neck, retracted in a vesicle diameter of about 3 cm (and larger). Harmful operation ovh cyst is the most common mechanical nature - caused by damage to blood vessels during migration through the liver and the resulting inflammation that can spread to the peritoneum and cause peritonitis. In the abdominal cavity found bloody content. In acute inflammation, the liver are present fibrin deposits and at the intersection to see the ducts (*Blazek et al., 1985*). The lungs are lucky emphysema and bleeding in the lung parenchyma. The thoracic cavity is serofibrinozna fluid and pleural edema. The disease is usually chronic course.

Taenia ovis

T. ovis lives in the small intestine of dogs, foxes and other carnivores and the debt is up to 5m (*Soulsby, 1977*). After infection, the eggs of parasites in the intestines of small ruminants are released embryos that penetrate the intestinal wall and the bloodstream to muscle tissue where they develop cystic formations (*Gregory 1976*). Most often infected myocardium, diaphragm, skeletal muscles and chewing. (*Coman and Rickard, 1975; DeWolf et al., 2013*). The cysts are developing larvae for 46 days become infectious for real hosts. Pregnant animal is possible intrauterine infection of the fetus.

Over time, the cysts of the muscles degenerate, and then calcifying caseous nodules formed structure. This is the stage of the disease is in small ruminants also known as "chicken pox" because it looks like pure muscle that is similar to pustular changes with smallpox (although nothing to do with real uzročnicma goddess - pox virus) (*Ericson, 2011*). *T. ovis* not pathogenic for small ruminants and does not constitute a risk to human health, but these calcified cysts have unpleasant looks as mentioned above and lead to the rejection of large quantities of sheep meat especially in Britain, Australia and New Zealand where disease are most present.

Conclusion

Parasitic infections produced great losses to goat production. In addition to direct damaging through the operation of reduced growth, milk yield, and the concept of these diseases affect the quality of meat of the skin as well as the rejection of the infected organs from slaughter line.

However, some forms of food borne parasite development (*Toxoplasma gondii*) are retained in the animal tissue and cause infection in humans who eat inadequately cooked meat and organs of infected animals.

Their presence leads to a change in the organoleptic characteristics of the food and hygiene failure causing elimination of food from the market and therefore leads to major economic losses.

Parazitska kontaminiranost mesa koza

Ivan Pavlović, Snežana Ivanović, Boris Pisinov, Zsolt Becskei, Mila Savić, Danica Todorović

Rezime

Meso koza se konzumira u svim delovima sveta zbog svog jedinstvenog ukusa i poželjnog hemijskog sastava. Ovo meso je bogato proteinima, vitaminima i mineralima, sadrži veoma malo masti pogotovu holesterola i mnogo je zdravijeg sastava od većine drugih vrsta mesa. Kvalitet mesa zavisi od načina držanja, pola životinja, produktivnog i adaptibilnog stresa, životnih uslova i načina držanja, ishrane, težine i zdravstvenog stanja. Na kvalitet mesa utiče i način klanja i postupak sa mesom po klanju. Na kvalitet utiče i prisustvo parazitskih, bakterijskih i virusnih kontaminanata koje mogu učiniti meso koza neupotrebljivim za ljudsku ishranu.

U mišićima i jestivim organima malih preživara može se naći ciste zoonotske protozoe *Toxoplasma gondii*. U jetri, mogu se naći odrasli i razvojni oblici *Fasciola hepatica* i *Dicrocoelium dendriticum*. U mozgu se mogu naći ciste *Coenurus cerebralis* (cistični oblik *Multiceps multiceps*). Hidatidne (ehinokokne) ciste se sreću po jetri, plućima, bubrezima, u mišićima i po drugim organima. Konačno tu su i cistični oblici *Taenia ovis* i *T. hydatigena* koje nalazimo na omentumu i jetri.

Nalaz ovih parazita menja organoleptička svojstva mesa i organa čineći ih neupotrebljivim za ishranu i preradu što dovodi do značajnih ekonomskih gubitaka.

Ključne reči: koze, meso, paraziti, kontaminacija, zoonoze

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