



the **18th** INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
**LIFE SCIENCES FOR
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26th - 28th September 2019, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

**BOOK OF
ABSTRACTS**

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IMPRESSUM

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TICK FAUNA OF SMALL RUMINANTS IN NORTH KOSOVO, SERBIA*

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Introduction: Today, small flocks of sheep and goats play an important role in providing animal protein for diet, especially for those people who live in village at mountains part of Serbia. Geographical conditions favor breeding small ruminants in northern Kosovo (Milutinović *et al.*, 1997; Pavlović *et al.*, 1995). Both, sheep and goats are milked and they produce the bulk milk supply, together with a large proportion of the meat that is consumed.

Aims: In pasture breed condition tick infestation are common especially during late spring and autumn months and aim of our examination are to established tick fauna at flocks of goats and sheeps in northern Kosovo.

Materials and Methods: During 2017 we examined 114 flocks of small ruminants from Zvečan and Leposavić district (villages Ceranja, Majdevo, Zemanica, Mure, Rudine, Žitkovac, Oraovica, Mošnica, Donji Krnjin, Belo brdo, Mioliće, Drenova and Beliče). Ticks were collected from sheep and goats by means lightly sprung forceps. The tick species were detected by morphometric characteristic (Kapustin, 1995).

Results: Ticks were found on 56.14% of examined sheep. Relative abundance analysis revealed that the species at sheep *I. ricinus* was absolutely dominant 44.91%, followed by *Dermacentor marginatus* (30.91%), *Rhipicephalus bursa* (15.22%), *R. sanguineus* (7.72%), *Haemaphysalis punctata* (3.21%) and *D. reticulatus* (2.17%). Ticks were found on 31.42% of examined goats. Relative abundance analysis revealed that the species at goats *I. ricinus* was absolutely dominant 54.42%, followed by *Rhipicephalus bursa* (18.22%), *R. sanguineus* (4.72%), *Haemaphysalis punctata* (4.22%) and *Dermacentor marginatus* (3.91%).

Conclusion: During study performed in 2017. we examined 114 flocks of small ruminants in northern Kosovo. Most abundant were *Ixodes ricinus*, followed by *Dermacentor marginatus*, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, *R. bursa*, *Haemaphysalis punctata* and *D. reticulatus*. These findings are of great epidemiological importance because these types of ticks transmit a multitude zoonoses like *Borellia burgdorferi*, *Erllichia spp.*, *Anaplasma spp.*, Tick-borne encephalitis, numerous haemorrhagic fever and etc.

* the status is in accordance with UNSCR 1244 and the Opinion of the International Court of Justice on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence

Keywords: North Kosovo, Serbia, small ruminants, ticks

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