

Identification of parasites with zoonotic potential in domesticated dogs

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Parasites with zoonotic potential are common in domestic animals, especially companion dogs, and are a Public Health concern, especially due to the proximity of these animals to humans. Therefore, the investigation and identification of these agents in domesticated dogs is important. This study aimed to evaluate fecal samples from 103 domesticated dogs in Araçatuba, São Paulo state, Brazil. The occurrence and molecular diversity of *G. duodenalis* in dogs were analyzed using the TF test and a nested PCR of the 18S rRNA gene of *Giardia* spp., and positive samples were genotyped by amplification of the GDH gene. Of the total fecal samples investigated in the parasitological examination, six presented *Toxocara* spp. eggs and one presented *Ancylostoma* spp. eggs, but no cysts of *Giardia* spp. were observed. However, five samples (4.85%) were positive for *G. duodenalis* using nPCR of the 18S rRNA gene and four of these were successfully genotyped, identifying the BIV zoonotic assemblage in two, and the C assemblage in the others. The three parasites found in the samples are zoonotic agents responsible for visceral larva migrans, cutaneous larva migrans and giardiasis, respectively. Statistical analysis revealed a significant association between infection and sex of the animals, with a higher prevalence in males. Thus, it was possible to observe an occurrence of 5.83% of *Toxocara* spp.; 0.97% of *Ancylostoma* spp. and 4.85% of *G. duodenalis*, identifying the assemblages BIV and C, in dogs domiciled in Araçatuba, São Paulo, Brazil.

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