

NEMATODES OF VETERINARY MEDICAL INTEREST IN AN URBAN RESERVOIR IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CATALÃO, SOUTHEASTERN GOIÁS STATE, BRAZIL

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Recreational areas near bodies of water can be an ideal place for leisure time in a natural environment, even within the city, but they can also be favorable places for the presence of parasites because they combine ideal climatic conditions, water and a large circulation of people and animals. Periodic monitoring is necessary in order to control infections of medical and veterinary interest. The aim of this study was to carry out parasitological analyses on soil samples from the Bica reservoir in the municipality of Catalão, in the south-east of the state of Goiás. The area around the dam was divided into five plots, and samples were collected from two points in each plot, upper and lower. Four samples were collected on alternate days, totaling 40 samples of approximately 50g of topsoil, with a maximum depth of five centimeters. The samples were processed in the Parasitological Diagnostic Sector of the Molecular Biology Laboratory of the Federal University of Catalão (UFCAT). For the parasitological analyses, we used five methods found in the literature, Rugai, Willis, spontaneous sedimentation, Ritchie, and modified Ritchie. By the Rugai method, it was possible to detect rhabditoid larvae of the genus *Ancylostoma* and *Strongyloides*. Using the modified Ritchie method, eggs of *Ascaris lumbricoides* and *Ancylostoma* sp were found. The presence of evolutive forms in the soil of the reservoir indicates contamination by animal and human waste, favoring the establishment of biological cycles of the species found and of other different zoonoses. The data obtained demonstrated the importance of raising the population's awareness of health promotion measures besides preventive actions and health education programs.

Keywords: Geo Helminths, *Ancylostoma* sp., *Strongyloides stercoralis*.