

## ABSTRACT

This study focused on the diversity of ectoparasites in wild rodents caught in Sta. Cruz Wet Market Laguna. Using live capture method, there were 30 rodent species collected belonging to the Rattus group namely: *R. tanezumi* (33.3%) and *R. norvegicus* (66.7%). One Hundred forty eight ectoparasites were recovered on the bodies of rats belonging to Class Insecta and Arachnida, namely: *Xenopsyllia cheopis* (50.7%), that parasitized all the urban stray rats and had the highest infestation rate in *R. tanezumi* is followed by *R. norvegicus*. *X. Cheopis* was followed by *Ornithonyssius bacoti* (21.6%), *Polyplax spinulosa* (15.5%) and *Laelaps nuttali* (12.2%). All recovered ectoparasites were commonly found in rats, thus they were non-host specific