#### Gastrointestinal Endoparasites of *Rattus* spp. collected from Sta. Cruz Wet Market Laguna, Philippines

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#### ABSTRACT

This study focused on the endoparasites found in the *Rattus spp.* caught in Sta. Cruz Wet Market Laguna. Using haphazard live capture method, there were 30 rat host samples collected belonging to the 2 *Rattus* group, namely: *R. tanezumi* (33.3%) and *R. norvegicus* (66.7%). Six hundred sixty four endoparasites with eight (8) species were identified. This consisted of cestodes, nematodes and trematodes were found inhabiting two *Rattus spp.* with the following prevalence rates: Nematodes had the highest prevalence rate with *R. norvegicus* (67.68%) and *R. tanezumi* (65.47%). Next to nematodes were the cestodes with *R. norvegicus* (29.26%) and *R.tanezumi* (30.95%). Trematodes had the least prevalence with *R. norvegicus* (3.05%) and *R. tanezumi* (3.57%). All collected endoparasites were commonly found in rats; thus, they were non host specific.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	
APPROVAL SHEET	
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	
ABSTRACT	
TABLE OF CONTENTS	
LIST OF TABLES	
LIST OF FIGURES	
LIST OF APPENDICES	
1.0 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY	
1.2 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	
1.3 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM	
1.4 HYPOTHESIS	
1.5 SCOPE AND DELIMITATION	
1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY 1.7 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS	
1.7 OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS	
2.0 REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
2.1 CONCEPTUAL LITERATURE	
2.2 RELATED STUDIES	
2.0 METHODOLOGY	
3.0 METHODOLOGY	
3.1 RESEARH DESIGN	
3.2 RESEARCH SETTING	
3.3 RESEACH PROCEDURE	
4.0 PERM # 4.1 P PAG RYGGYON	
4.0 RESULT AND DISCUSSION	
4.1 RESULT	
4.2 DISCUSSION	
5 A GOVERNICIONAL AND DE GOVERNOUS TRANSPORTED A TRANSPORT	
5.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION	
5.1 CONCLUSION	
5.2 RECOMMENDATION	
6.0 LITERATURE CITED	
7.0 APPENDICES	
8.0 VITAE	

Table 4.1 Summary of endoparasites prevalence rate found in gastrointestinal tract of *Rattus* spp.



## LIST OF FIGURES

Fig. 1 Map of Sta. Cruz Wet Market, Laguna, Philippines	Page 26
Fig. 4.1 Number of Murine Rodent spp. Collected from Sta. Cruz Wet Market, Laguna	32
Figure A.1 Map of Sta. Cruz, Laguna Philippines showing the location of the Sta. Cruz Wet Market	43
Figure B.1 <i>Rattus norvegicus</i> Figure B.2 <i>Rattus tanezumi</i>	44
Figure B.2 Rattus tanezumi	44
Fig. C.1 Different types of diseases which can be passed on through rats	45
Figure D.1 Rat specimen cut along the chest up to the genital areas.	49
Figure D.2 Gastrointestinal tract of rat specimen being taken out without disturbances	49
Fig.E.1 Rat feces specimen preserved in formalin	51
Fig.E.2 Mix the specimen well.	52
Fig.E.3 Straining of the fecal suspension	52
Fig.E.4 Adding of 0.85% saline or 10% formalin	53
Fig.E.5 Centrifuge	53
Fig.E.6 Decanting the supernatant	54
Fig.E.7 Mixing with wooden applicator sticks.	54
Fig.E.8 Adding 4 ml of ethyl acetate	55
Fig.E.9 Centrifuge	55
Fig.E.10 Adding of 10% formalin to resuspend the concentrated specimen	56

Fig.K.1 Tapeworm (Dipylidium caninum)	63
Fig.K.2 Nematode rhabditiform larva (Hookworm)	63
Fig.K.3 Tapeworm (Hymenolepis diminuta)	64
Fig.K.4 Syphacia muris egg	64



# LIST OF APPENDICES

		Page
Appendix A	Map of Sta. Cruz Wet Market, Laguna Philippines	43
Appendix B	Rat host species	44
Appendix C	Different types of diseases which can be passed on through rats	45
Appendix D	Standard Procedure for dissecting the <i>Rattus</i> species specimen	49
Appendix E	Sedimentation Technique	51
Appendix F	Flotation Technique	57
Appendix G	Direct Fecal Smear Technique	59
Appendix H	Gantt Chart	60
Appendix I	Budget	61
Appendix J	Statistics (Chi-square)	62
Appendix K	Endoparasites collected from the gastrointestinal organs	63