



**INTESTINAL PARASITES OF STRAY AND INDOOR DOGS
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ABSTRACT

The presence of intestinal parasites and their distribution in dogs were investigated from 15 indoor and 15 stray dogs employing formalin-ether concentration sedimentation technique. A total of 490 intestinal parasites of stray and indoor dogs were observed and identified by light microscopy. One hundred sixty two (162) were observed from indoor dogs and 398 species were observed from stray (outdoor) dogs. Occurrence (%) and distribution of parasites were determined using Shannon's index. Among indoor dog hosts, parasites *Isospora* sp. (22.22% with 0.33 index value), followed by *Blastocystis* sp. (19.14% with 0.32 index value), *Entamoeba* sp. (13.58% and 0.27 index value), *Cryptosporidium* sp. (11.11% and 0.24 index value), and *Sarcocystis* sp. (8.02% with 0.20 index value) were observed to be the most abundant in number and had the highest occurrence rate among indoor types. Meanwhile, *Cryptosporidium* sp. (29.88% with 1.37 index value) followed by *Blastocystis* sp. (21.04% with 0.89 index value), *Schistosoma* sp. (12.2% with 0.45 index value), *Ancylostoma* sp. (10.06% with 0.35 index value), and *Isospora* sp. (4.57% with 0.12 index value) were observed to be the most abundant in distribution and had the highest occurrence rate among stray (outdoor) dogs. Statistical difference in the distribution of intestinal parasites among stray and indoor dogs was observed significant ($P > 0.05$) due to varying environment or factors present for the dogs to be infected with parasites. A preliminary finding of *Schistosoma* eggs in fecalysis was reported although no snail hosts (*Oncomelania hupensis quadrasi*) were recovered in the nearby semi-flowing stream.



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