

MORPHOLOGICAL OBSERVATION OF THE LARVA OF THE ALXA BACTRIAN CAMEL VAGINAL MYIASIS

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ABSTRACT

The Alxa bactrian camel vaginal myiasis is caused by the larvae of *Wohlfahrtia Magnifica* parasitised in its vagina. In this study, the morphological structure of the larvae of vaginal myiasis in Alxa bactrian camel is observed to understand about their habits and lifestyle. The 1st instar larvae were obtained from the female *Wohlfahrtia Magnifica* captured in the field, or from the vulva of Alxa bactrian camel oviposited by the female *Wohlfahrtia Magnifica*. The 2nd and the 3rd instar larvae were taken from the vaginal lesion in the diseased Alxa bactrian camel. We observed the structure and gave a description by scanning with electron microscope, integrated anatomical microscope and ultra depth imager. Under integrated anatomical microscope, we could observe that the larva had 12 segments, in which 1 bilobed pseudocephalon segment, 3 thoracic segments, 7 abdominal segments and 1 anal segment, respectively. Under electron microscope, we could see many sensilla and a pair of mouthhooks at bilobed pseudocephalon on the 1st instar larva and mouthhooks attached to the cephaloskeleton. The surface of larva has a lot of hard spines and its number and arrangement were different on each segment. The anterior respiratory spiracles of the 2nd and the 3rd instar larva showed a fan-like structure carrying 5 branches. The anal division was the last segment, hemispherical. The posterior spiracles are hidden in the spiracular cavity.

Key words: Alxa bactrian camel, morphology, vaginal myiasis, *Wohlfahrtia magnifica* larva