

PARASITIC PROFILE OF SAUDI ARABIAN CAMELS

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ABSTRACT

The prevalence and biology of *Toxoplasma*, *Neospora*, mange, ticks and gastrointestinal parasites among Saudi Arabian camels (*Camelus dromedarius*) were investigated. The results of the study revealed that 35.8% (N=190) were *Toxoplasma* seropositive and 40% (N=169) were *Neospora* seropositive. Examination of 2449 camels showed that 61.7% (N=1512) were infested with hard ticks of *H. dromedarii* and *H. anatolicum* and 15.6% (N=382) were infected with *Sarcoptic scabiei*. Out of 203 camels 31.5% (N=64) were found to be infested with gastrointestinal parasites. The parasites encountered were *Haemonchus*, *Camelostrogylus*, *Trichostrongylus*, *Nematodirs* and coccidian spp.

Key words: Camels, parasites, Saudi Arabian