# A STUDY ON GASTROINTESTINAL PARASITISM IN MAHABERIYATHANNA FARM

## (NEMATODES, *EIMERIA* SPP)

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By

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# ABSTRACT

This paper reports the prevalence of gastrointestinal nematodes and *Eimeria spp* in goat and cattle units in Mahaberiyathanna NLDB farm, from March to June 2010. Fecal egg per gram (EPG) and oocysts per gram (OPG), larval cultures were obtained from fecal samples of 40 cattle and 80 goats. Goats and cattle were divided in to 3 age groups as < 6 month, 6 - 12 month and > 1 year. Three genera of gastrointestinal nematodes namely *Haemonchus, Trichostrongylus, Oesophagostomum* and *Eimeria alijevi* and *Eimeria arloingi* of genera *Eimeria were* identified in the goat unit, while the *Haemonchus* and *Oesophagostomum* were identified in cattle. *Eimeria* spp were dominant ($p < 0.05$) goats below 6 month of age and *Strongyl spp* were dominant ($p < 0.05$) among above one year age group in both cattle and goat units. Goat and cattle farm EPG and OPG value is significantly ($p < 0.05$) increased with the rain fall. Only the goats were sent for grazing, this can be a reason for the severity of gastrointestinal parasite in goats compared to cattle unit. These observations serve as a useful guide for strategic control of gastrointestinal nematodes and *Eimeria spp* in Mahaberiyathanna NLDB farm.

Key words: *Gastrointestinal Nematodes, Eimeria spp, EPG, OPG, Rain fall, Pasture land, Cattle, Goat*