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Veterinari Medicina

Seroprevalence of antibodies to *chlamydophila abortus* shown in awassi sheep and local goats in Jordan

K. M. Al-Qudah, L. A. Sharif, R. Y. Raouf, N. Q. Hailat, F. M. Al-Domy

Veterinari Medicina, 49 (2004): 460-466

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A cold complement fixation test (CFT) was used to identify *C. abortus* infection in ewes and does in northern Jordan. Sera from 36 flocks of sheep and 20 flocks of goats were collected randomly. The results showed that 433 (21.8%) out of 1 984 ovine sera, and 82 (11.4%) out of 721 caprine sera, were seropositive for *C. abortus* infection, as indicated by a titre \geq 1:40. However, all the tested sheep flocks and goat flocks (100%) revealed at least one seropositive animal. There was a strong association ($P < 0.05$) between the rate of *C. abortus* infection and the size of the sheep flock, when larger flocks had higher infection rates.

However, in goats, the flock size had no relationship with seropositivity. Age had no significant ($P > 0.05$) impact on *C. abortus* seropositivity. In sheep, there was a significant difference ($P < 0.05$) between the rates of the chlamydial infection in the four studied areas of northern Jordan. The highest infection rate in sheep (31.2%) was recorded in Mafraq area, while the rates in Irbid, Ajloun and Jerash were 18.5%, 11.2% and 13.9%, respectively. In goats, there was no significant difference between the rates of the chlamydial infection in the two areas studied. The rates of goat infections were 10.8% and 11.8% in Ajloun and Jerash areas, respectively.

Keywords:

seroprevalence; *Chlamydomphila abortus*; sheep; goats

[[fulltext](#)]