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Original Article

Seroprevalence of *Neospora caninum* Infection in Rural and Industrial Cattle in Northern Iran

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Abstract:

Background: *Neospora caninum* is an intracellular parasite which causes abortion in cattle worldwide. The aim of this study was to determine the seroprevalence of *N. caninum* in cattle in Babol City, North of Iran.

Methods: Blood samples were collected from 237 cattle for determining the seroprevalence of *N. caninum*. A total of 237 serum samples were tested for anti-*Neospora* antibodies. Serum samples were analyzed for antibodies against *N. caninum* antigen using a commercial *N. caninum* ELISA kit.

Results: Antibodies to *N. caninum* were found in 76 of 237 total cattle (32%), 40 of 155 industrial cattle (25. 8%) and 36 of 82 rural cattle sera (43. 9%) based on ELISA test results.

Conclusion: This study is the first report of *Neospora* infection in this area. Significant difference was observed regarding infection in industrial and rural cattle ($P<0. 01$).

Keywords:

Neospora caninum . ELISA . Cattle . Iran

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