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Effects of Home Grown School Feeding Program on current helminths status of primary school pupils, Anambra State, Nigeria

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Intestinal helminthiasis still persists among pupils; as this study evaluated its current status in pupils where Home Grown School Feeding Program (HGSFP) was implemented. Consented 1677 primary pupils aged 6-11 years from schools in three senatorial zones of Anambra State, Nigeria were enrolled. Fresh faecal samples collected from all pupils were examined using Kato-Katz technique. Pupils were treated with antihelminthic (400 mg Levamisole) after examination. Structured questionnaire was administered to assess Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) towards helminthiasis. Minitab 17 were used for data analysis. Results showed, that of 1677 pupils, males were 53% and females 47%. A prevalence of 6.0% was observed which was not significant with respect to sex but significantly decreased as age increased. Intestinal helminthes ova observed were *Ascaris lumbricoides* (3.9%), *Trichuris trichiura* (0.8%), Hookworm (0.2%), *Taenia spp.* (0.5%). Co-infection observed varied but the highest was between *A. lumbricoides* and Hookworm (0.24%). On the intensity of *A. lumbricoides* voided after treatment, 33 female pupils voided 165 worms while 42 male pupils voided 125 worms respectively. Out of 290 voided worms, male worms were 126 and females 164; comprising 119 adult worms and 171 young worms. Young worms could be attributed to cases of re-infection as assessment of KAP were significantly ($p<0.05$) related to transmission. Low prevalence of infection recorded is attributable to efforts of HGSFP. There is need for constant monitoring and surveillance of all public schools and sustenance of water, sanitation and hygiene practices and HGSFP so that elimination of helminthes could be achievable.

Sero prevalence of anaplasmosis in cows and buffaloes of district Mardan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Statement of Purpose: The study is designed to find the prevalence of anaplasmosis among cows and buffaloes in three Tehsils (Mardan, Lundkhwar and Katlang) of district Mardan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Pakistan.

Materials & Methods: A total number of 600 blood samples were collected and examined under Microscope using Giemsa stained blood smears.

Results: Obtained results revealed an overall prevalence of parasites as 7.40% and 5.44% in cows and buffaloes, respectively. The overall sero prevalence of anaplasmosis in cows using cELISA was 32.66%. Females were found to be more susceptible 70/200 (35.00%) as compared to males 28/100 (28.00%). The prevalence was significantly higher 80/180 (44.44%) in cows than calves 18/120 (15.0%), ($P<0.05$). The seroprevalence in cows was significantly ($P<0.01$) higher in summer season in the district. The overall sero prevalence of anaplasmosis in buffaloes using cELISA was 23.66% (71/300). Females were found more infected (54/220, 24.54%) as compared to males 17/80 (21.25%). The prevalence was higher 50/190 (26.31%) in above two year buffaloes than the younger ones 21/110 (19.09%). The seroprevalence in buffaloes was significantly ($P<0.001$, $P<0.01$ and $P<0.05$) higher in summer, spring and autumn seasons in the district, respectively.