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Prevalence and pathology of *Heterakis gallinarum* in free roaming domestic chicken of Kashmir valley

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The present research work was carried out for a period of two years from January 2012 to December 2013 on a sample size of 478 free ranging domestic fowl collected from different localities of Kashmir valley. The study revealed occurrence rates of *Heterakis gallinarum* for the 1st and 2nd year of study and an overall prevalence rates were found to be 3.43% (8/233), 5.3% (13/245) & 4.39% (21/478). Mean intensity of infection for the nematode was observed to be 20±2.1. *Heterakis gallinarum* occurred free in the lumen of caecum especially at the blind end. The caecal wall was thickened and revealed petecial haemorrhages. Histopathological studies of mucosa revealed degeneration of mucosa and glandular distortion. Multiple erosion foci together with parasite and cellular debris were evident. Parasite sections and eggs were observed in the lumen which was full of cellular debris. Cellular reaction was diffuse in the mucosa and sub-mucosa and was characterized by leukocytes and heterophils. Nodular aggregation of mononuclear cells was also observed. Toluidine blue stained sections revealed presence of mast cells in the submucosa and mucosa.

Biography

S T Salam completed his PhD from University of Kashmir on September 2008 and carried out Postdoctoral studies from Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER). He Joined J&K Higher Education Department on 1st May 2010 as Assistant Professor and was posted at A S College, Srinagar. He has published more than 12 research papers in various journals of national and international repute having impressive impact factors. Besides this, he has presented many research papers in various national and international conferences. He has also organized many national level seminars and conferences at his institute of posting.

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