



Impact of *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata* on Northern Tunisian Cattle

Myriam Janina*

Department of Clinical Sciences, University of Giessen, Giessen, Germany

DESCRIPTION

The cattle industry in Northern Tunisia is highly affected by the presence of parasites, such as *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata*. In order to analyze the molecular basis of cattle parasitism in this region, it is necessary to first understand the ecology and epidemiology of these parasites. This focuses on the cattle parasites of Northern Tunisia through an evaluation of their respective lifecycles, transmission mechanisms, and effects on bovine populations. As one of the most common protozoan parasites in northern Tunisia, *Trypanosoma evansi* is known for its ability to cause severe pathologies in livestock including trypanosomiasis, also known as “surra”. This parasite has an indirect transmission cycle where it is transmitted from host to host through vectors like flies or ticks. It starts with an infected fly or tick feeding on an animal that harbors a high population of *T. evansi*. After ingesting infected blood, these vectors become carriers and deposit *T. evansi* onto new hosts when they feed again. When a susceptible animal is bitten by a vector carrying *T. evansi*, the parasite enters its bloodstream and then spreads throughout its body where it replicates itself until it reaches its adulthood stage before passing out with the animal’s feces.

Theileria annulata is another protozoan parasite that commonly affects animals in northern Tunisia, causing diseases such as Tropical Bovine Piroplasmiasis (TBP). Unlike *T. evansi* which has an indirect transmission cycle, *T. annulata* has a direct transmission cycle where it's passed from mammal to mammal through contact with infected blood or other biological fluids like saliva or urine. The lifecycle of this parasite begins when an infected mammal passes on its own population of *T. annulata* onto a susceptible one through direct contact with its fluids or secretions, allowing the parasite to enter into its new host’s bloodstream where they then replicate themselves until they reach maturity before being excreted out via feces or urine. Both *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata* can have severe effects on bovines in northern Tunisia if left untreated or undiscovered for extended periods of time due to their ability to spread rapidly through vectors or direct contact between hosts respectively. In terms of symptoms caused by these parasites, animals can suffer from feverishness/anorexia/weight loss which can all lead up to

death if not treated quickly enough with antiparasitic drugs like diminazene aceturate and imidocarb dipropionate respectively for both parasites according to veterinarians in this region.

Cattle in Northern Tunisia are vulnerable to a wide range of parasitic infections. Two of the most common and devastating parasites are *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata*. While these two parasites have different modes of transmission, they both cause serious health issues for cattle populations in Northern Tunisia. This article will analyze the molecular basis of cattle parasitism in Northern Tunisia, including discussion of the particular characteristics that make these parasites successful in this environment. The first causative agent behind cattle parasitism in Northern Tunisia is *Trypanosoma evansi*, which is a species of protozoa. This parasite is primarily transmitted by tsetse flies, which feed on the blood of infected animals and pass on the parasite to uninfected hosts through their saliva. Once inside an animal’s body, *Trypanosoma evansi* multiplies rapidly, causing severe damage to internal organs such as the liver and spleen. In addition, it can cause edema and anemia due to its ability to damage red blood cells. *Theileria annulata* is another causative agent behind cattle parasitism in Northern Tunisia that affects cattle populations in this region. This species is also a protozoan but it has a completely different mode of transmission than *Trypanosoma evansi*. It is spread through direct contact between animals or from infected ticks that feed off an infected host, passing on the parasite to uninfected animals through their saliva or feces. Once inside an animal’s body, *Theileria annulata* multiplies rapidly and causes severe damage to internal organs such as the heart, liver, lungs, and kidneys by directly attacking cells within these organs. Molecular analysis has been used to study both *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata* more closely in order to understand their characteristics and behavior better. By understanding what components make up each parasite's genetic makeup, can develop improved treatments for infections caused by either species. Molecular analysis has shown that both species contain similar components such as ribosomal RNA (rRNA) that helps them replicate within a host’s body quickly and effectively; unfortunately this means that both parasites are equally adept at causing devastating infections in cattle populations within Tunisia when left untreated. Overall

Correspondence to: Myriam Janina, Department of Clinical Sciences, University of Giessen, Giessen, Germany, Email: myriamja@gmail.com

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there are many factors contributing to parasitic infections among cattle populations within Northern Tunisia however two major contributors are *Trypanosoma evansi* and *Theileria annulata*. Understanding at least some of the molecular basis behind these parasites' success allows developing better treatments for affected animals while also helping them prevent further spread or recurrence among livestock within this region.

The molecular basis for cattle parasitism is essential for keeping these populations healthy in Northern Tunisia. Vaccination challenges must be accounted for when developing control strategies, as well as utilizing technological solutions whenever possible to improve surveillance efforts and reduce environmental risks associated with transmission of these parasites among livestock herds.