

Molecular epidemiology of *Giardia* in black goats, pigs and cattles in Hainan, China

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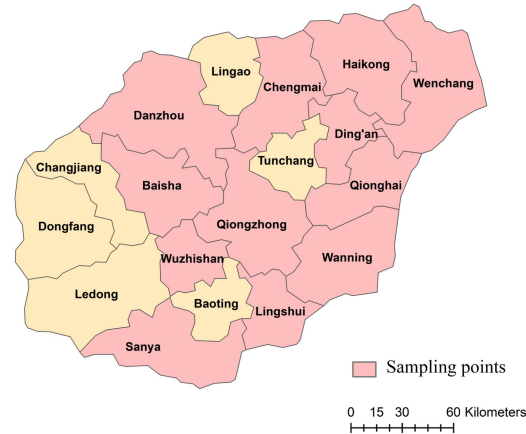


Introduction

Giardia is a widespread intestinal protozoan that causes diarrhea in humans and animals. No systematic research was reported on *Giardia* in black goats, pigs and cattles in Hainan, China.

Methods

A total of 1,480 feces samples were collected in Hainan island, including 710 black goats, 456 pigs and 314 cattles. *Giardia* was detected and genotyped by nested PCR targeting small subunit ribosomal RNA (SSU rRNA) gene and sequence analysis.



Specific locations where samples were collected in this study

Results

The infection rates of black goats, pigs and cattle of were 6.2% (44/710), 2.6% (12/456) and 2.2% (7/314), respectively ($P < 0.05$). Higher infection rates of younger livestock were

observed than older ones. *Giardia* assemblages A (n=17), B (n=8), and E (n=19) were identified in black goats. Only assemblage E was identified in pigs (n=12) and cattle (n=7). Interestingly, among the 16 positive samples from 115 samples in black goats from Haikou, 15 were assemblage A. Eight positive samples were all assemblage B among 53 samples from Wuzhishan.

Conclusions

This study found that the wide distribution of *Giardia* in black goats, pigs and cattles in Hainan, China. Significant variation for genotypes distribution existed in different regions. Black goats, pigs and cattles might a potential source of human giardiasis.

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