

THE INFLUENCE OF *STRONGYLIDAE* INFECTION ON MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES OF INTESTINAL TISSUES IN HORSES

Galina Lukianova¹, Nikolaj Barsukov², Tatjana Filonenko³, Aleksandras Vitkus^{4*}, Kristina Lasienė⁴

¹*Department of Epizootology, Parasitology and Veterinary Sanitary Inspection*

National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine

Southern Branch "Crimean Agrotechnological University", vil. Agrarne, Simferopol, AR Crimea, Ukraine

²*Department of Work Safety with courses of Histology and Radiobiology*

National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine

Southern Branch "Crimean Agrotechnological University", vil. Agrarne, Simferopol, AR Crimea, Ukraine

³*Department of Pathological Anatomy with the Course of Dissection,*

Crimea State Medical University Named After S.I. Georgievsky, Lenin Avenue 5/7, 95006, Simferopol, Ukraine

⁴*Department of Histology and Embryology*

Academy of Medicine, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences, A. Mickevičiaus 9, LT-44307 Kaunas, Lithuania

**Correspondence and reprint requests to: Prof. Dr. Aleksandras Vitkus; E-mail: alekvitk@med.kmu.lt*

Summary. 12 horses infected with *Strongylidae* helminths only were used for this investigation. These horses were infected mainly with *S. edentatus* and *Cyathostomidae* (11.6 ± 1.4 ir 14.1 ± 2.6 helminths/10 cm², respectively ($P \geq 0.05$)). Number of *S. vulgaris* helminths was significantly lower compared to *S. edentatus* and *Cyathostomidae* (3.7 ± 0.2 helminths/10 cm²) ($P \leq 0.05$). Histological study of horse intestinal tissues, which were affected by *Strongylidae* larvae, showed local changes in the shape of connective tissue capsule around the cysts in the area of implantation of parasites, tissue oedema, vascular congestion and lymphocytic and eosinophilic infiltration in the wall of the small and large intestines.

Keywords: *Strongylidae*, helminths, horse, intestine, morphological changes.