

*Short Communication*

**SCHISTOSOMOSIS IN A GOAT - A CASE REPORT**

*Schistosoma spindale* infection was reported in cattle, buffaloes and goats by Fairley and Jasudasan (1930). Islam (1975) recorded *S. spindale* infection in goats from Bangladesh. Agarwal (1981) opined that the lower incidence of *S. spindale* infection in goats might be due to the fact that they rarely go to the water bodies. Although *S. spindale* infection is widely found in cattle and buffaloes in Kerala, authentic reports on its occurrence in goats are not available. The present paper is to report a case of such infection in a goat.

A Malabari cross - bred goat aged two years was presented to the Clinical Medicine Unit of the University Veterinary Hospital, Thrissur with the history of loose motion since one week (Case No. Ca. 15000). The body temperature, pulse and respiratory rates were within the normal range. Conjunctival mucous membranes were pale, watery with partially sunken

eyes suggestive of moderate dehydration. Dung sample was examined microscopically and was found to be positive for ova of *Strongyloides spp.*(+). Fenbendazole suspension (Panacur \*— Hoechst) was administered orally @ 3 ml daily for three consecutive days. Since there was no improvement in condition, dung sample was once again examined. It was semi - solid with mucus and was positive for ova of *S. spindale* (+++). The ova of *Schistosoma spindale* was typically spindle shaped with terminal spine at one end and a miracidium inside. The length ranged from 300.3 to 386.1 mm. with an average of 340.8mm. and the breadth between 71.5 and 100.1 mm. with an average of 81.7mm. (Fig.).

The goat was treated with Tartar emetic @ 1.5 mg/kg body weight, intravenously with 150 ml isotonic Dextrose saline. A total of 3 injections were given at two days

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\* PANACUR (Hoechst) - Fenbendazole 5% suspension, Broad spectrum Anthelmintic, @ 5-10 mg/kg body weight.

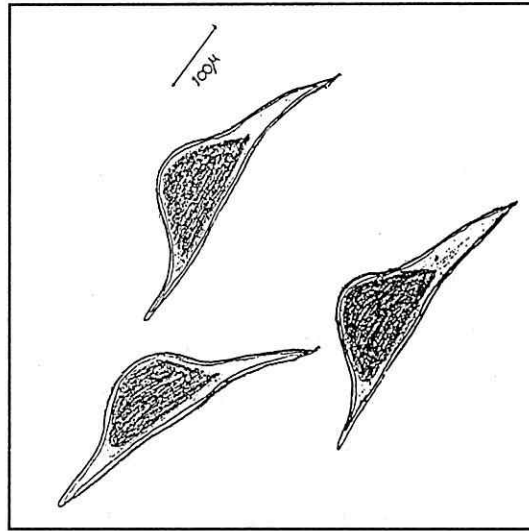


Fig. Ova of *Schistosoma spindale*

interval. After the third injection body condition considerably improved and the dung was almost normal in consistency. On microscopical examination no ova of *Schistosoma spindale* could be detected.

This report of *Schistosoma spindale* infection in goat is first of its kind from Kerala. Rajkhowa *et al.* (1992) had reported its incidence in goats from Assam where only 3 dung samples out of 110 proved positive for *Schistosoma spindale*.

In the present study, it is presumed that the only possible chance of infection was the habit of occasional grazing of goats in the water logged paddy fields along with

cattle and buffaloes.

### Summary

A case of *Schistosoma spindale* infection in a goat with its clinical signs, morphology of the ova and treatment are reported.

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### References

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