

Abstract

Parasitic diseases are very important in small ruminants. Fascioliasis and dicrocoeliasis are two examples of parasitic diseases which often occur in chronic form and don't have clinical symptoms clearly or asymptomatic. Therefore, these diseases not only caused deaths in the herd but also more often caused significant economic losses over time.

Fascioliasis is a disease caused by any member of the genus *Fasciola* of trematoda. One of the major species involved in causing Fascioliasis in small ruminants is *Fasciola hepatica*.

The severity of fascioliasis depends on some factors such as the age and species of host, the phase of parasitic development in the host (animal and/or human as a definitive host), its nutritional state and the number of metacercariae ingested. There are essentially two forms of fascioliasis, differing in pathogenesis. The first form occurs during migration of immature fasciola in the liver parenchyma and is associated with liver parenchymal damage and haemorage. The second form of the disease occurs when the parasite has entered the bile ducts and results from the blood sucking activity of the fluke and the considerable damage inflicted on the epithelial lining of the bile ducts.

Also *Dicrocoelium dendriticum* is common trematodes of ruminants in many parts of Iran. In chronic infections, this parasite causes biliary cirrhosis in liver of cattle, sheep or goat and lead to economic losses.

Therefore, in this study, 282 sheep and 168 goats randomly were selected occasionally and their stool samples were collected and fixed in 10% formaldehyde. Then samples were transported to laboratory. Identification eggs in stool samples were done by clayton lane, stool flotation method and also was observed their liver.

The results showed that of the 282 sheep tested, 24 cases (8.51%) were infected with *Dicrocoelium dendriticum* and 2 (0.7%) were infected with *Fasciolla hepatica*. Also from the 168 goats tested, 9 cases (5.53%) were infected with *Dicrocoelium dendriticum* but no one them has infection with *Fasciolla hepatica*.

Keywords: *Fasciolla hepatica*. *Dicrocoelium dendriticum*. sheep. goat. Esfarayen



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**the prevalence of *Fasciola hepatica* and *Dicrocoelium dendriticum* in
slaughtered carcasses of sheep and goat in Esfarayen slaughterhouse**

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