



University of Zabol
Graduate school
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Pathobiology
**The Thesis Submitted for the Degree of M.Sc (in the field of
Parasitology Science)**

**Seroprevalance study of Toxoplasma in sheep in Boyer-
Ahmad city**

Supervisor:

Dr. M. Ganjali

Advisor:

Dr. D. Saadati

By:

M. Hashemikia

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Abstract:

Toxoplasma is one of the common diseases between humans and animals, which is caused by *Toxoplasma gondii*. Considering the importance of this disease and the problems it causes, including economic problems in animal husbandry due to abortion in animals, as well as endangering public health and the health of human society due to the common nature of this disease and the problems caused by infection with this disease in pregnant women. and since comprehensive and reliable statistics regarding the prevalence of this infection in the sheep of Boyer Ahmad city (as the most sensitive domestic animal whose meat is used) are not available, therefore, in this study, the serological prevalence of toxoplasmosis in the sheep of Boyer Ahmad city in 1402 was investigated. A total of 230 blood samples were taken from the sheep of this region by referring to different areas of Boyer Ahmad city. In the laboratory of parasitology and serology, serum was separated from the samples and their status was measured in terms of the presence of anti-toxoplasma IgG antibody using ELISA technique, and based on this, the prevalence of toxoplasma serum in the sheep of this city was estimated at 17.8%. Chi's exact ratio test showed that there is a relationship between toxoplasma infection and parameters of age ($P=0.477$), gender ($P=0.562$), breed ($P=0.892$), feeding method ($P=0.095$) and pregnancy of female sheep ($P=0.191$) is not significant. This test showed that there is a significant relationship between *Toxoplasma* infection in sheep and parameters such as contamination area ($P<0.001$) and abortion history ($P<0.001$). The prevalence of infection in the studied sheep is lower compared to many studied areas in Iran. However, due to the problems of serological tests such as ELISA, it is less possible to determine the actual prevalence of toxoplasma.