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"Bacteriological studies on Enteric microorganisms in Rabbits"
Thesis for the Master Degree in Veterinary Medicine (M. V. Sc.)

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Abstract

Bacteriological examination of 250 rabbits was done for isolation and identification of bacterial strains causing enteric affections in rabbits. The isolated microorganisms were *E. coli*, *Enterobacter cloacae*, *Citrobacter diversus*, *K. pneumoniae*, *Shigella sonnei*, *P. aeruginosa*, *K. oxycota*, *Y. enterocolitica* and *Serratia liquificans*. Serogroups of recovered *E. coli* were O111, O114 and O125 . Experimental infections by most prevalent pathogenic bacteria to the rabbits such as *E. coli* (O111, O114 and O125), *P. mirabilis* and *K. pneumoniae*, showed that *E. coli* O125 was the most pathogenic inoculated species with mortality rate 100% followed by *E. coli* O111 and *P. mirabilis* 75% mortality for each, while *K. pneumoniae* caused 50% mortality. The inoculated rabbits expressed signs of the enteric diseases. P.M lesions as well as mortalities were described in details. The antibiogram results showed that, *E. coli* strains were highly resistant to penicillin G and all strains of *E. coli* were sensitive to norfloxacin, *P. mirabilis* were found to be sensitive to norfloxacin and highly resistant to most of other therapeutic agents, *Enterobacter cloacae* examined isolates were found to be intermediately sensitive to streptomycin and highly sensitive to all other antimicrobial disks used, *K. pneumoniae* were found to be highly sensitive to ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin and was highly resistant to penicillin G.

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