Poultry and PIg Low-input and Organic production systems' Welfare





6.3.Improving the robustness of laying hens and piglets against parasitic and bacterial infections

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Phytochemical Profile and Antimicrobial Potential of Extracts Obtained from Thymus marschallianus Willd

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In Vitro and In Vivo Study of Combined Effect of Some Algerian Medicinal Plants and Probiotics against *Helicobacter pylori*

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Increasing importance of anthelmintic resistance in European livestock: creation and meta-analysis of an open database

Hannah Rose Vineer, ^{1,a,*} Eric R. Morgan, ^{2,a,*} Hubertus Hertzberg, ³ David J. Bartley, ⁴ Antonio Bosco, ⁵ Johannes Charlier,⁶ Christophe Chartier,⁷ Edwin Claerebout,⁸ Theo de Waal,⁹ Guy Hendrickx,¹⁰ Barbara Hinney,¹¹ Johan Höglund, ¹² Jožica Ježek, ¹³ Martin Kašný, ¹⁴ Orla M. Keane, ¹⁵ María Martínez-Valladares, ¹⁶ Teresa Letra Mateus,^{17,18} Jennifer McIntyre,¹⁹ Marcin Mickiewicz,²⁰ Ana Maria Munoz,²¹ Clare Joan Phythian,²² Harm W. Ploeger, 23 Aleksandra Vergles Rataj, 24 Philip J. Skuce, 4 Stanislav Simin, 25 Smaragda Sotiraki, 26 Marina Spinu,²⁷ Snorre Stuen,²² Stig Milan Thamsborg,²⁸ Jaroslav Vadleich,²⁹ Marian Varady,³⁰



microorganisms

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The Effects of Coriandrum sativum L. and Cucurbita pepo L. against Gastrointestinal Parasites in Swine: An In Vivo Study

Mihai-Horia Băieș¹, Vlad-Dan Cotuțiu ¹, Marina Spînu ², Attila Mathe ³, Anamaria Cozma-Petruț^{4,*} Doina Miere ⁴. Sorana D. Bolboacă ⁵ and Vasile Cozma ^{1,6}

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Article

pathogens

Prevalence of Swine Gastrointestinal Parasites in Two Free-Range Farms from Nord-West Region of Romania

Mihai-Horia Băieș¹, Zsolt Boros¹, Călin Mircea Gherman^{1,*}, Marina Spînu², Attila Mathe³, Stefan Pataky³, Menelaos Lefkaditis⁴ and Vasile Cozma^{1,5}

SEVIE



Detection of livestock-associated nethicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus among swine workers in Romania

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pathogens

The In Vitro Anticoccidial Activity of Some Herbal Extracts against Eimeria spp. Oocysts Isolated from Piglets

Mihai-Horia Băies^{1,†}, Adriana Györke^{1,†}, Vlad-Dan Cotutiu¹, Zsolt Boros¹, Anamaria Cozma-Petrut^{2,*} Lorena Filip², Laurian Vlase³, Ana-Maria Vlase⁴, Gianina Crisan⁴, Marina Spînu⁵, and Vasile Cozma^{1,6}

pathogens

Articl

and Calendula officinalis L. on the Embryogenesis of Ascaris suum Eggs during an in Vitro Experimental Study

Mihai-Horia Băieș¹, Călin Gherman¹, Zsolt Boros¹, Diana Olah², Ana-Maria Vlase³, Anamaria Cozma-Petruț^{4,*}, Adriana Györke ¹, Doina Miere ⁴, Laurian Vlase ⁵, Gianina Crișan ³, Marina Spînu ² and Vasile Cozma ^{1,6}

Cucurbita pepo L., Coriandrum sativum L., Satureja hortensis L.

The Effects of Allium sativum L., Artemisia absinthium L.,

PPILOW 4rd annual meeting, 23th-24th October, 2023, Perugia Autumn school, 25th-27th October, 2023, Assisi

Introduction

- Parasitic diseases have a considerable effect on pig production, causing economic losses due to low immunity, high morbidity and mortality.
- Due to continuously increasing drug resistence in parasites and bacteria and prohibited use of antiparasitic and antibacterial medications in organic pig farming practices, phytotherapy could represent a valid, biologically available and cost effective alternative for parasite control.
- The use of phytotherapeutic remedies has notably increased over the past decade due to their biodegradability, decreased toxicity, environmentally friendliness, and to some extent their antiparasitic effect.



Α

<u>Aims</u>

- The primary objective of this research was to identify a plant-based formula that exhibits effectiveness in combating pig parasitoses without interfering with animal welfare and health.
- The present studies were designed to assess, in vitro and in vivo, the antiparasitic potential of <u>Allium</u> <u>sativum</u>, <u>Artemisia absinthium</u>, <u>Cucurbita pepo</u>, <u>Coriandrum sativum</u>, <u>Calendula officinalis</u>, <u>and Satureja</u> <u>hortensis</u> on naturally occurring gastrointestinal parasites of swine in two free-range (low-input) farms from Transylvania, and also to evaluate the parasitic prevalence in the same farms.



Initial steps

- Since parasitic diseases cause significant economic losses in swine industry and
- the number of free-range swine farms in Romania has increased in the last decades.
- the current study segment aimed at identifying the parasitic profile of swine raised in two free-range (low-input) farms from Transylvania.





- 960 faecal samples were collected from <u>weaners</u>, fatteners, and sows, during the four seasons
- Coproparasitological examination methods: flotation (Willis, McMaster), active sedimentation, modified
 Ziehl-Neelsen stained fecal smear, modified Blagg technique and oocysts/eggs cultures.





<u>Results</u>

Coproparasitological examination results: a- *Eimeria spp.* oocyst, *b*- *Cryptosporidium* spp. cyst, *c*- *Oesophagostomum spp.* egg, d- *T. suis egg, e*- *A. suum* egg, *f*- *S. ransomi* female and *g*- *B. coli.*











Conclusions

- This study provided essential information on Transylvania's distribution of gastrointestinal parasites in pigs.
- Different species of gastrointestinal parasites were present in most pigs reared in freerange farms in the study area
- Information of great value to farmers, policymakers, and researchers alike, leading to safer and healthier pork production for public consumption.
- Control strategies are needed to raise awareness among pig farmers about the impact of these parasites on the productivity and health of pigs as well as on human health.

The effects of Allium sativum L., Artemisia absinthium L., Cucurbita pepo L., Coriandrum sativum L., Satureja hortensis L. and Calendula officinalis L. on the embryogenesis of Ascaris suum eggs during an in vitro experimental study.

Background & Aim

- Ascaris suum is present in traditionally managed herds and on industrialized farms, especially in old fatteners and sows.
- Increasing resistance against antihelmintics redirected the research towards alternative, traditional therapies, medicinal plants included.
- This study comparatively evaluated the *in vitro* effects of Allium sativum, Artemisia absinthium L., Cucurbita pepo, Coriandrum sativum, Satureja hortensis L. and Calendula officinalis on inhibition of A. suum egg hatching and larval development.









Prof dr B.Losson

LESIONS

- Piglets: - catarrhal enteritis, obstruction of the small intestine, volvulus (a bowel obstruction in which a loop of bowel has abnormally twisted on itself) with gangrene of intestinal wall;

- the corpses are weak, with anemia, rickets, hyperkeratosis, jaundice, liver degeneration and cirrhosis;

- larval forms induce - pulmonary oedema, bronchial pneumonia, hemorrhage, liver necrosis.











Ascaris lumbricoides

1. Chemical analyses of medicinal plants

High performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry (HPLC/MS) was used for the analysis of biologically active compounds present in the plant extracts. All the procedures were performed at the Iuliu Haţieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, in Cluj-Napoca.

2. Experimental design

- A. suum eggs were collected from randomly sampled of traditionally maintained swine faeces. In 3 ml cell culture plates, the egg suspension (ES, 8x10³/ml) was divided in two control (C) (1C - 1ml ES + 1 ml distilled water, 2C- five plates of 1ml ES + 1ml ethanol of 70%, 35%, 17.5%, 8.75%, and 4.375%, respectively) and six experimental groups.
- The experimental (E, 1-6) groups included ES + each alcoholic plant extract (10%, 5%, 2.5%, 1.25%, 0.625%). Both C and E were performed in quintuplicate.
- All groups were incubated at 27 °C for a total of 21 days, A. suum eggs being examined after 2, 14 (L1) and 21 (L2/L3) days.



3. Eggs Hatch Test/Larval Development Assay



(a) Ascaris suum unembryonated egg; (b) Egg of A. suum in two stage cell (early morula); (c) A. suum egg with L1 (larva); (d) A. suum egg with L 2/3 (larva); (e) Hatched L 2/3 (larva).

1. Analysis of plant extracts

		Vegetal Species and Plant Part Used for Extraction and HPLC-MS Analysis									
Bioactive Compounds		A. absinthium	S. hortensis	C. officinalis	A. sativum	C. sativum	С. реро				
		herba	herba	herba	bulbus	fructus	semen				
	Chlorogenic acid	107.15	<loq< td=""><td>220.767</td><td>-</td><td>4.177</td><td>-</td></loq<>	220.767	-	4.177	-				
	Caffeic acid	-	<loq< td=""><td>-</td><td>1.221</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></loq<>	-	1.221	-	-				
	p-coumaric acid	0.621	1.464	-	-	0.501	-				
	Ferulic acid	0.759	0.557	-	0.456	0.759	-				
	Sinapic acid	-	-	-	0.228	-	-				
	Vitexin	1.631	-	-	-	-	-				
	Isoquercitrin	56.754	6.515	38.877	-	-	-				
Polyphenols	Rutoside	3.826	<loq< td=""><td>18.819</td><td>-</td><td><loq< td=""><td>-</td></loq<></td></loq<>	18.819	-	<loq< td=""><td>-</td></loq<>	-				
(µg/mL)	Quercitrin	1.113	0.365	<loq< td=""><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></loq<>	-	-	-				
	Quercetol	6.285	0.394	-	-	-	-				
	Luteolin	1.159	6.621	-	-	-	-				
	Kaempferol	3.666	-	-	-	-	-				
	Apigenin	0.481	2.442	-	-	-	-				
	Syringic acid	1.85	2.28	1.51	-	0.09	-				
	Protocatechuic acid	1.32	0.95	0.67	-	-	-				
	Vanillic acid	1.98	0.65	0.44	-	0.94	_				

HPLC/MS—high performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry; "-"—Not found; <LOQ—identified based on MS spectra but not determined quantitatively, below limit of quantification.

			Vegetal Species and Plant Part Used for Extraction and HPLC-MS Analysis								
Bioactive Co	ompounds	A. absinthium	S. hortensis	C. officinalis	A. sativum	C. sativum	С. реро				
		herba	herba	herba	bulbus	fructus	semen				
	α-tocopherol	50.0	86.8	61.6	36.1	-	-				
Tocopherols (ng/mL)	γ-tocopherol	23.8	89.0	248.9	-	-	446.0				
	∆-tocopherol	5.0	13.2	9.3	-	-	23.2				
	Ergosterol	0.344	1.420	0.500	-	0.584					
Storols (ug/ml)	Stigmasterol	34.831	14.215	72.888	-	9.675	22.024				
	B-sitosterol	140.985	313.315	241.997	-	31.548	5.355				
	Campesterol	3.329	6.140	1.635	-	1.780	0.358				
	Jaceosidin	-	8820.76	-	-	-	-				
	Hispidulin	3047.92	2483.00	-	-	-	-				
Methoxylated flavones (ng/mL)	Eupatorin	976.53	-	-	-	-	-				
(Casticin	15,384.14	-	-	-	-	-				
	Acacetin		12691.97	-	-	-	-				
Sesquiterpene	α-santonin	450.52	-	-	-	-	-				
lactones (ng/mL)	Vulgarin	6499.39	-		-	-	-				
Sulfoxide (µg/mL)	Aliin	-	-	-	14.726	-	-				

HPLC/MS—high performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry; "-"—Not found; <LOQ identified based on MS spectra but not determined quantitatively, below limit of quantification.

2. Analysis of Plant Extracts Activity

The efficacy of all tested plants, when compared to the control groups increased with concentration. Antiembryogenic effects on the *A. suum* eggs were expressed by all plants, with more pronounced influence of the *A. sativum*, *A. absinthium*, *C. pepo* and *S. hortensis* extracts at all tested concentrations.



Percentage of embryogenesis inhibition at 5 % and 2.5 % concentration: Distilled water (DW), Ethanol (E), A. sativum L. (AS), A. absinthium L. (AA), C. sativum L. (CS), C. pepo L. (CP), S. hortensis L. (SH), C. officinalis L. (CO).



DW E 4.375 AS 0.625 AA 0.625 CS 0.625 CP 0.625 SH 0.625 CO 0.625







Percentage of embryogenesis inhibition at 1.25 %, 0.625 % and 0.312 % concentration: Distilled water (DW), Ethanol (E), A. sativum L. (AS), A. absinthium L. (AA), C. sativum L. (CS), C. pepo L. (CP), S. hortensis L. (SH), C. officinalis L. (CO).

Conclusions

- In this study, all plants extracts showed various degrees of inhibitory effects on egg development. A. sativum L., A. absinthium L., C. pepo L. and S. hortensis L. extracts have shown the strongest anthelmintic activity.
- In summary, based on the results of this study we suggested that some of these plant materials could be prospective sources for development of new antiparasitic herbal remedies.
- To our knowledge, this is the first ethno-pharmacological report based on the anthelmintic activity of medicinal plants traditionally used to treat A. suum infection in Romania.

Background & Aim

- Coccidiosis in certain livestock (birds and ruminants), caused by *Eimeria* spp., has a severe economic impact. In pigs, on the other hand, it is considered less significant, as natural infections are only sporadically related to clinical disease.
- Infections with *Eimeria* spp. are common in pigs worldwide, clinically affecting weaners and fatteners, manifested through diarrhea and weight loss.
- Lastly, an increased interest in safe and effective alternatives aimed at controlling coccidiosis has led to the use of plant extracts, essential oils, and traditional medicinal products, in organic swine farms in particular.
- The aim of this study was to evaluate the effects of the alcoholic extracts from Allium sativum L. (garlic), Artemisia absinthium L. (wormwood), Coriandrum sativum L. (coriander), Cucurbita pepo L. (pumpkin), Satureja hortensis L. (summer savory), and Calendula officinalis L. (marigold) on the sporulation of Eimeria suis and Eimeria debliecki oocysts, isolated from piglets.







Photos: Prof. A. Joachim ,Vienne

Diagnostic

Postmortem examination reveals congestion of the jejunum and ileum. Coprology on a mixture of feces is useful



Experimental design

Groups	Concentration (%)	Abbreviations	Content/Well	
Potassium dichromate	0.625	PD	1 mL SOS (0.5 mL OS + 0.5 mL 2.5% PD) + 1 mL DW	
Ethanol	35	E 35	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 70% E	
	17.5	E 17.5	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 35% E	
	8.75	E 8.75	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 17.5% E	
	4.375	E 4.375	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 8.75% E	
	2.187	E 2.187	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 4.37% E	
Alcoholic plant extracts	5	AS 5, AA 5, CS 5, CP 5, SH 5, CO 5	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 10% APE	
	2.5	AS 2.5, AA 2.5, CS 2.5, CP 2.5, SH 2.5, CO 2.5	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 5% APE	
	1.25	AS 1.25, AA 1.25, CS 1.25, CP 1.25, SH 1.25, CO 1.25	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 2.5% APE	
	0.625	AS 0.625, AA 0.625, CS 0.625, CP 0.625, SH 0.625 CO 0.625	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 1.25% APE	
	0.312	AS 0.312, AA 0.312, CS 0.312, CP 0.312, SH 0.312, CO 0.312	1 mL SOS + 1 mL 0.625% APE	

OS—oocysts suspension, SOS—stock oocysts suspension (oocysts suspension mixed with potassium dichromate in equal volumes), PD—potassium dichromate, DW—distilled water, E—ethanol, APEs—alcoholic plant extract, AS—A. sativum, AA—A. absinthium, CP—C. pepo, CS—C. sativum, SH—S. hortensis, CO—C. officinalis.







Unsporulated (a), sporulated (b), and destroyed oocyst (c) of *Eimeria suis* (400×). The concentration of 50 mg/mL of each APE produces complete oocyst wall destruction (c).

In vitro antiparasitic activity of APE against Eimeria spp. oocysts



<u>Sporulated oocysts</u> after 96 h of incubation (PD—potassium dichromate, E ethanol, AA— A. absinthium, AS— A. sativum, CO— C. officinalis, CP— C. pepo, CS— C. sativum, SH— S. hortensis).



<u>Destroyed oocysts</u> after 96 h of incubation (PD—potassium dichromate, E—ethanol, AA— A. absinthium, AS— A. sativum, CO— C. officinalis, CP— C. pepo, CS— C. sativum, SH— S. hortensis).

Time (hours)	AS (mg/mL)	AA (mg/mL)	CS (mg/mL)	CP (mg/mL)	SH (mg/mL)	CO (mg/mL)
72	28.84	31.62	28.18	33.11	35.48	24.55
96	21.88	18.62	20.42	23.44	23.99	16.98

The LC₅₀ (lethal concentration) of each APE after 72 and 96 h of incubation.

AA— A. absinthium, AS— A. sativum, CO— C. officinalis, CP— C. pepo, CS— C. sativum, SH— S. hortensis

The percentage of destroyed oocysts (mean \pm SDM) from the experimental groups using Abbot formula.

Time (hours)	AS 5	AA 5	CS 5	CP 5	SH 5	CO 5
24	16.44 ± 5.22 ª	9.23 ± 3.05 ^a	18.5 ± 3.59 ^a	15.6 ± 2.88 ^a	15.03 ± 2.72 ^a	18.94 ± 1.93 ^a
48	16.12 ± 6.38 ª	6.98 ± 2.04 ^a	17.74 ± 3.34 ^a	13.05 ± 2.29 ^a	14.87 ± 2.54 ^a	18.06 ± 2.77 ^a
72	23.78 ± 5.47 ª	13.2 ± 3.09 ^a	23.97 ± 3.74 ^a	21.97 ± 2.98 ^a	20.36 ± 2.88 ^a	27.5 ± 2.18 ^a
96	29.38 ± 3.16 ^{ab}	23.96 ± 3.71 ^{ab}	31.27 ± 4.42 ^{ab}	25.36 ± 2.38 ^{ab}	24.21 ± 2.45 ^b	35.01 ± 1.93 ^a
	AS 2.5	AA 2.5	CS 2.5	CP 2.5	SH 2.5	CO 2.5
24	15.94 ± 4.66 ª	16.03 ± 4.82 ^a	18.96 ± 3.68 ª	15.2 ± 2.92 ^a	14.1 ± 2.54 ^a	18.68 ± 2.07 ª
48	14.72 ± 4.47 ª	23.46 ± 4.79 ^a	18.78 ± 3.49 ^a	12.47 ± 2.94 ^a	13.03 ± 2.17 ^a	17.8 ± 2.55 ^a
72	25.79 ± 6.68 ^a	32.12 ± 3.81 ^a	25.6 ± 3.24 ^a	22.07 ± 2.82 ^a	22.64 ± 3.27 ^a	29.72 ± 3.14 ^a
96	26.45 ± 6.66 ^a	33.82 ± 4.87 ^a	28.08 ± 3.29 ^a	24.02 ± 3.28 ^a	24.15 ± 2.79 ^a	32.51 ± 1.72 ^a
	AS 1.25	AA 1.25	CS 1.25	CP 1.25	SH 1.25	CO 1.25
24	6.22 ± 3.28 ª	9.44 ± 3.39 ^a	9.6 ± 2.29 ^a	4.99 ± 1.34 ^a	4.49 ± 1.02 ^a	8.5 ± 1.51 ^a
48	5.21 ± 3.21 ª	6.85 ± 2.54 ^a	8.39 ± 2.7 ^a	3.97 ± 1.12 ^a	3.72 ± 0.99 ^a	8.39 ± 1.81 ª
72	11.05 ± 3.17 ^{ab}	11.14 ± 2.93 ^{ab}	11.65 ± 2.23 ^{ab}	7.42 ± 1.83 ^{ab}	5.97 ± 1.19 ^b	14.18 ± 1.94 ª
96	10.46 ± 4.28 ª	10.41 ± 2.3 ª	14.31 ± 2.52 ª	10.23 ± 1.73 ^a	9.93 ± 1.88 ª	16.31 ± 1.76 ^a
	AS 0.625	AA 0.625	CS 0.625	CP 0.625	SH 0.625	CO 0.625
24	4.77 ± 2.32 ª	8.3 ± 3.8 ^a	8.84 ± 2.32 ^a	3.73 ± 1 ª	3.21 ± 0.8 ^a	7.6 ± 1.41 ^a
48	3.33 ± 1.96 ª	12.97 ± 3.24 ^a	10.43 ± 2.78 ^a	4.31 ± 1.29 ª	3.81 ± 1.05 ª	9.74 ± 1.87 ^a
72	4.14 ± 2.22 ^{ac}	14.17 ± 3.05 ^a	5.57 ± 1.88 ^{ac}	1.34 ± 0.46 ^c	3.9 ± 0.94 ^{bc}	8.71 ± 1.58 ^{ab}
96	3.82 ± 2.17 ^{bc}	14.81 ± 2.99 a	5.94 ± 1.36 ^{bc}	0.8 ± 0.12 ^c	1.89 ± 0.3 ^c	7.49 ± 1.34 ^b
	AS 0.312	AA 0.312	CS 0.312	CP 0.312	SH 0.312	CO 0.312
24	2.4 ± 1.48 ^{ab}	11.01 ± 4.16 ^a	5.22 ± 1.89 ^{ab}	1.24 ± 0.42 ^b	1.47 ± 0.38 ^b	4.75 ± 1.16 ^{ab}
48	3.58 ± 2.07 ^b	14.89 ± 3.44 a	6.57 ± 1.54 ^b	1.85 ± 0.51 ^b	2.1 ± 0.62 ^b	6.55 ± 1.32 ^b
72	3.31 ± 2.04 ^{bc}	14.92 ± 3.69 ^a	1.89 ± 0.65 ^{bc}	0.54 ± 0.12 ^c	0.5 ± 0.09 ^c	6.57 ± 1.31 ^b
96	5.06 ± 3.22 ^{bc}	17.26 ± 3.09 ^a	1.9 ± 0.65 ^{bc}	2.06 ± 0.58 ^{bc}	0.95 ± 0.2 ^c	5.74 ± 1 ^b

SDM—standard deviation of mean, AS (*A. sativum*), AA (*A. absinthium*), CP (*C. pepo*), CS (*C. sativum*), SH (*S. hortensis*), CO (*C. officinalis*). Values with no common superscript in a column within an experiment were significantly different ($p \le 0.05$).

Conclusions

- This study is one of the few performed on *Eimeria* spp. oocysts isolated from piglets. Statistical analysis showed that all plant extracts were effective in inhibiting the sporulation of both *E. suis* and *E. debliecki* oocysts as well as destroying them, while a minor, statistically non-significant percentage of oocysts remained sporulated.
- The alcoholic extracts of C. officinalis, A. absinthium, and C. sativum were the most potent and obtained the lowest LC50 values.
- As our *in vitro* results demonstrated that the APEs at higher concentrations had a dual effect, <u>both inhibitory and destructive</u>, their use as disinfectants in livestock shelters seems encouraging.
- In order to obtain the strongest anticoccidial effect, the implementation of herbal formulas which contain the most effective alcoholic plant extracts is needed. Further investigation on the isolation, purification, toxicity, and mechanism of action of the aforementioned major compounds (of tested plants) is required.

In vivo studies

- *I. In vivo* assessment of the antiparasitic effects of *Allium sativum* and *Artemisia absinthium* against gastrointestinal parasites in swine, from low-input farms, in NW of Romania
- II. The effects of *Coriandrum sativum* L. and *Cucurbita pepo* L. against gastrointestinal parasites in swine: An *in vivo* study
- *III. Satureja hortensis* L. and *Calendula officinalis* L., two Romanian plants with *in vivo* antiparasitic potential on digestive parasites of pigs

Background & Aim

- ✓ Internal parasitic diseases of swine constitute one of the most important health issues in low-input livestock farming, affecting the welfare, reproduction performance and productivy of the infected animals.
- ✓ Phytotherapeutic remedies can be used for prophylaxis and therapy of digestive parasitosis and are a viable and sustainable alternative to chemical antiparasitics, but few of them have been subjected to scientific validation.
- ✓ Low-input swine farming in Romania adopted the traditionally use of the phytotherapy for controlling the pathogens in livestock.
- ✓ The current studies aimed at evaluating, the *in vivo* antiparasitic activity of *Allium sativum*, *Artemisia absinthium L., Cucurbita pepo, Coriandrum sativum, Satureja hortensis L.* and *Calendula officinalis* powders against digestive parasites in swine, in two low-input farms from Transylvania area.





- ✓ 2160 faecal samples were collected from weaners, fatteners, and sows.
- Different coproparasitological methods, including flotation (Willis, McMaster), centrifugal sedimentation, Ziehl-Neelsen staining as modified by Henricksen, a modified Blagg technique, and faecal cultures (nematode larvae/protozoan oocyst cultures) were involved during testing.





1. Biochemical analyses of medicinal plants

High performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry (HPLC/MS) was used for the analysis of biologically active compounds present in the plant extracts. All the procedures were performed at the Iuliu Haţieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, in Cluj-Napoca.

2. Experimental design and swine husbandry

- ➢ For each farm and plant:
 - □ 3 control groups
 - ✤ 10 weaners, 10 fatteners and 10 sows
 - □ 3 experimental groups
 - 10 weaners, 10 fatteners and 10 sows
 - received <u>A. sativum</u> in a dosage of <u>180 mg/kg BW/day</u> and <u>A. absinthium</u> in a dosage of <u>90 mg/kg BW/day</u> for 10 consecutive days
 - received <u>C. sativum</u> in a dosage of <u>170 mg/kg BW/day</u> and <u>C. pepo</u> in a dosage of <u>500 mg/kg BW/day</u> for 10 consecutive days
 - received <u>C. officinalis</u> in a dosage of <u>140 mg/kg bw/day</u> and <u>S. hortensis</u> in a dosage of <u>100 mg/kg BW/day</u> for 10 consecutive days

3. Assessment of antiparasitic efficacy

Faecal egg count reduction test: FECR (%) = 100 x (1–[T2/T1] x [C1/C2])

- > T1 and T2 are the mean pre- and post-treatment faecal egg counts (FEC) of a treated group
- > C1 and C2 are the mean pre- and post-treatment FEC of control group

In vivo assessment of the antiparasitic effects of Allium sativum and Artemisia absinthium against gastrointestinal parasites in swine, from low-input farms, in NW of Romania



Bioactive com	pounds	Vegetal species and plant part used for extraction and HPLC-MS analysis			
	-	Artemisia absinthium L.	Allium sativum L.		
		herba	bulbus		
Polyphenols (µg/mL)	Chlorogenic acid	107.15	-		
	Caffeic acid	-	1.221		
	p-coumaric acid	0.621	-		
	Ferulic acid	0.759	0.456		
	Sinapic acid	-	0.228		
	Vitexin	1.631	-		
	Isoquercitrin	56.754	-		
	Rutoside	3.826	-		
	Quercitrin	1.113	-		
	Quercetol	6.285	-		
	Luteolin	1.159	-		
	Kaempferol	3.666	-		
	Apigenin	0.481	-		
	Syringic acid	1.85	-		
	Protocatechuic acid	1.32	-		
	Vanillic acid	1.98	-		

Results



Cake		th	2
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Bioactive com	pounds	Vegetal species and pl	ant part used for
		extraction and HPL	C-MS analysis
		Artemisia absinthium L.	Allium sativum L.
		herba	bulbus
Tocopherols (ng/mL)	α-tocopherol	50.0	36.1
	γ-tocopherol	23.8	-
	Δ-tocopherol	5.0	-
Sterols (µg/mL)	Ergosterol	0.344	-
	Stigmasterol	34.831	-
	B-sitosterol	140.985	-
	Campesterol	3.329	-
Methyoxylated flavones	Jaceosidin	-	-
(ng/mL)	Hispidulin	3047.92	-
	Eupatorin	976.53	-
	Casticin	15384.14	-
	Acacetin	-	-
Sesquiterpene lactones	α-santonin	450.52	-
(ng/ml)	Vulgarin	6499.39	-
Sulfoxide (µg/mL)	Aliin	-	14.726

HPLC/MS—high performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry; "-"—Not found;

The coproparasitological examination revealed co-infections of up to five species of gastrointestinal parasites, namely *Eimeria* spp. (a), *Oesophagostomum* spp (b), *Trichuris suis* (c), *Ascaris suum* (d), *Cryptosporidium* spp. (e), *S. ransomi* (f), and *Balantioides coli* (g).



<u>Results</u>

Percentage of faecal egg/oocyst/cyst count reduction (%) recorded on days 14, and 28 post-treatment in F1 and F2 farms (using FECR formula)

			A. sativ	<i>um</i> (14)			A. sativum (28)					
Daracita	Weaners		Fatte	eners	So	ws	Wea	iners	Fatte	eners	So	ws
Parasite	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2
Eimeria spp.	76.7	82.1	62.1	79.6	100	100	88.1	84.6	20.0	84.1	78.9	83.5
B. coli	59.8	74.2	76.1	75.1	82.3	66.3	47.9	72.3	66.7	69.8	55.8	67.8
A. suum	-	-	82.3	79.8	87.6	72.1	-	-	84.7	86.3	68.2	62.8
T. suis	-	-	66.7	76.6	-	-	-	-	63.9	54.1	-	-
Oesophagostomum spp.	100	-	-	-	100	87.5	88.7	-	-	-	67.3	45.8
S. ransomi	64.4	-	100	-	100	-	57.3	-	100	-	100	-
			A. absint	thium (14)			A. absinthium (28)					
Daracita	Wea	aners	Fatteners		Sows		Weaners Fat		Fatte	eners	Sows	
Parasite	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2
Eimeria spp.	74.2	84.0	71.8	33.1	65.8	92.4	71.5	84.9	85.1	100	56.3	89.8
B. coli	72.1	88.4	60.3	37.7	58.7	88.0	63.3	80.6	46.9	71.9	31.6	85.1
A. suum	-	-	71.3	64.9	44.7	80.5	-	-	70.4	64.3	30.2	78.6
T. suis	-	-	50.4	39.5	-	-	-	-	49.9	79.2	-	-
Oesophagostomum spp.	33.2	-	-	-	49.5	63.1	25.1	-	-	-	43.8	66.7
S. ransomi	36.2	-	-	-	44.4	-	31.3	-	-	-	69.1	-

Conclusions

- This experiment was conducted between April and July 2021, on two free-range (low-input) Transylvanian farms, involving pigs of the Bazna and Mangalitza breeds.
- Both plant powders at the previously mentioned doses for 10 consecutive days had a strong antiprotozoal and anthelmintic activity, with A. sativum being more effective.
- A. sativum and A. absinthium have the potential of treating gastrointestinal parasitosis in swine.
- The antiparasitic efficacy can be attributed to the presence of polyphenols, tocopherols, flavonoids, sesquiterpene lactones and sulfoxide.

The effects of *Coriandrum sativum* L. and *Cucurbita pepo* L. against gastrointestinal parasites in swine: An *in vivo* study



<u>Results</u>

Chemical class	Chemical compound	d Plant species and plant part used for extract				
		preparation and the results	of HPLC-MS analysis			
		Coriandrum sativum L.	Cucurbita pepo L.			
		fruit	seed			
Polyphenols (µg/mL)	Chlorogenic acid	4.177	-			
	p-coumaric acid	0.501	-			
	Ferulic acid	0.759	-			
	Rutoside	<loq< th=""><th>-</th></loq<>	-			
	Syringic acid	0.09	-			
	Vanillic acid	0.94	-			
Tocopherols (ng/mL)	γ-tocopherol	-	446.0			
	Δ-tocopherol	-	23.2			
Sterols (µg/mL)	Ergosterol	0.584	-			
	Stigmasterol	9.675	22.024			
	B-sitosterol	31.548	5.355			
	Campesterol	1.780	0.358			

HPLC/MS—high performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry; "-"—Not found; <LOQ identified based on MS spectra but not determined quantitatively, below limit of quantification.



The examination revealed parasitic infections with **a**- *Eimeria spp.* oocyst, **b**- *T. suis egg, c*- *A. suum* egg, **d**- *Cryptosporidium* spp. cyst, **e**- *Oesophagostomum spp.* egg, and **f**- *B. coli*



Percentage of faecal egg/oocyst/cyst count reduction (%) recorded on days 14, and 28 post-treatment in F1 and F2 farms (using FECR formula)

		C. sativum (14)						C. sativum (28)					
Parasite	Wea	iners	Fatt	eners	So	WS	Wear	ners	Fatte	eners	So	ws	
	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	
Eimeria spp.	71.4	72.1	80	30.6	60	41.5	100	25.4	100	100	50	75.7	
B. coli	29.6	68.9	44.4	62.4	23.2	74.2	84.4	79.5	50.4	20.1	67.4	31.2	
A. suum	-	18.1	8.1	13.9	-	0	-	30.3	0	7.2	-	0	
T. suis	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	3.3	0	0	-	-	
			С. реј	oo (14)					С. реро	o (28)			
Parasite	Wea	iners	ners Fatteners		Sows		Wear	Weaners		Fatteners Sows		ws	
	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	
Eimeria spp.	11.6	96.6	13.9	33.3	45.4	0	24.9	94.7	35.9	0	61.1	0	
B. coli	2.3	59.5	22.9	54.9	3.0	30.1	0	34.1	45.1	24.8	33.6	22.2	
A. suum	77.4	80.9	83.5	79.7	87.1	70.3	79.7	100	84.5	95.9	85.9	88.9	
T. suis	91.6	80.7	50.1	75.0	-	-	91.0	100	57.7	100	-	-	

"-"= was not diagnosed; "0"= was identified, but had no efficacy

Conclusions

- This experiment was carried out between September and December 2021.
- Both plant powders at the previously mentioned doses for 10 consecutive days, were efficient against gastrointestinal parasites in swine. Coriander was more effective against protozoa while pumpkin showed better efficacy against helminths.
- Considering all the constraints of Romanian livestock farming, these results are a beacon of hope for better management and welfare practices in the swine farming.
- In addition, to the best of our knowledge, this is the first ethnopharmacological report on the antiparasitic effects of *C. pepo* and *C. sativum* traditionally used in Romania for treating protozoa and nematode infections in swine.

Satureja hortensis L. and Calendula officinalis L., two Romanian plants with in vivo antiparasitic potential on digestive parasites of pigs



<u>Results</u>



Chemical class	Chemical compound	Plant species and plant part used for ex	Plant species and plant part used for extract preparation and the results of				
		HPLC-IVIS a	naiysis				
		Calendula officinalis L.	Satureja hortensis L.				
		aerial part	aerial part				
Polyphenols (µg/mL)	Chlorogenic acid	220.767	<loq< td=""></loq<>				
	Caffeic acid	-	<loq< td=""></loq<>				
	p-coumaric acid	-	1.464				
	Ferulic acid	-	0.557				
	Isoquercitrin	38.877	6.515				
	Rutoside	18.819	<loq< td=""></loq<>				
	Quercitrin	<loq< td=""><td>0.365</td></loq<>	0.365				
	Quercetol	-	0.394				
	Luteolin	-	6.621				
	Apigenin	-	2.442				
	Syringic acid	1.51	2.28				
	Protocatechuic acid	0.67	0.95				
	Vanillic acid	0.44	0.65				

Chemical class	Chemical compound	Plant species and plant part used for extract preparation and the results of HPLC-MS analysis		
		Calendula officinalis L. Satureja hortensis		
		aerial part	aerial part	
Tocopherols (ng/mL)	α-tocopherol	61.6	86.8	
	γ-tocopherol	248.9	89.0	
	Δ-tocopherol	9.3	13.2	
Sterols (µg/mL)	Ergosterol	0.500	1.420	
	Stigmasterol	72.888	14.215	
	B-sitosterol	241.997	313.315	
	Campesterol	1.635	6.140	
Methoxylated flavones	Jaceosidin	-	8820.76	
(ng/mL)	Hispidulin	-	2483.00	
	Acacetin	-	12691.97	

HPLC/MS—high performance liquid chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry; "-"—Not found; <LOQ—identified based on MS spectra but not determined quantitatively, below limit of quantification.





The examination revealed parasitic infections with **a**- *Eimeria* spp., **b**- *T. suis*, **c**- *B. coli*, **d**- *A. suum*, **e**- *Cryptosporidium* spp., and **f**- *Oesophagostomum* spp.



<u>Results</u>

Percentage of faecal egg/oocyst/cyst count reduction (%) recorded on days 14, and 28 post-treatment in F1 and F2 farms (using FECR formula)

	C. officinalis (14)					C. officinalis (28)						
Parasite	Weaners		Fatteners		Sows		Weaners		Fatteners		Sows	
	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2
A. suum	-	-	15.2	10.3	-	49.9	-	-	54.2	34.9	-	79.9
T. suis	-	-	-	8.2	-	-	-	-	-	20.3	-	-
Oesophagostomum spp.	-	60.5	-	-	-	28.6	-	32.9	-	-	-	45.8
Eimeria spp.	91.8	42.5	95.5	75.9	-	74.9	72.5	57.1	88.9	30.0	-	76.5
B. coli	72.0	90.9	73.1	53.6	84.9	69.8	74.7	69.2	58.3	61.1	76.1	58.2
	S. hortensis (14)					S. hortensis (28)						
Parasite	Weaners		Fatteners		Sows		Weaners		Fatteners		Sows	
	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2	F1	F2
A. suum	-	-	70.8	77.1	91.1	88.7	-	-	77.1	81.2	72.1	59.7
T. suis	-	-	80.5	84.0	-	-	-	-	90.3	87.1	-	-
Oesophagostomum spp.	-	-	-	-	80.2	69.2	-	-	-	-	100	83.7
Eimeria spp.	78.2	68.7	76.3	89.7	25.1	70.3	66.8	80.3	46.8	83.8	80.9	94.1
B. coli	80.1	88.4	63.5	74.7	70.2	70.5	83.6	86.5	72.2	71.2	70.7	74.6

Conclusions

- The present experiment was conducted between April and June 2022.
- Both plant powders at the previously mentioned doses for 10 consecutive days, showed promising in vivo antiparasitic activity.
- C. officinalis had a strong antiprotozoal activity and mildly antihelmintic effects while S. hortensis was very effective against both helminths and protozoa infections.
- The antiparasitic efficacy can be attributed to the presence of polyphenols, sterols, tocopherols and flavonoids.
- The current study is the first report about the antiparasitic effects of C. officinalis and S. hortensis against digestive parasites of pigs, from Romania.

Aim of study

This research aimed to investigate the natural potential of locally available traditional medicinal plants in controling the antibiotic resistant bacterial load in swine raised on low-input outdoor farms from North Western and Central Romania.

TASK - Improving the robustness of laying hens and piglets against parasitic and bacterial infections by innovative feeding strategies and optimal use of outdoor area rich in vegetation











Aerobic bacterial strains (n=14) from the nasal cavities of extensively raised swine:



- ✓ biochemically identified (Vitek[®]2 Compact System)
- ✓ tested for susceptibility to antibiotics (n=12, antibiotic classes=6, Kirby-Bauer method)
- ✓ tested for susceptibility to plant extracts (aromatogram).







AROMATOGRAM TECHNIQUE

- pure bacterial strains, 18-24h old diluted in broth to an optical turbidity of 0.5 McFarland
- Petry plates covered with the prepared solution
- 12 wells cut with a diameter of 6 mm
- 37.5 µl of alcoholic plant extract inoculated into each well
- 24h incubation at 37°C reading of inhibition diameters



Stahylococcus vitulinus – Gram stain



Alcoholic plant extracts

Aromatogram



The active principles - identified by gas chromatography coupled with mass spectrometry in all tested plants.



Allium sativum - bulbs





Artemisia absinthium - whole plant



Cucurbita pepo - seeds



Coriandrum sativum -seeds



Satureja hortensis – whole plant



Inhibition diameters produced by antibiotics

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- highest average of inhibition diameters was of 11.11±0.68 mm for C. sativum extract and of 9.78±0.68 mm for C. pepo
- Iowest average was found in Allium sativum 6.86±0.35 mm.



chloramphenicol (20.75±0.92 mm) and norfloxacin (20.68±1.55 mm)

Results

• lowest - cefotaxime (7.5±0.79 mm)

Inhibition diameters produced by plant extracts







Multiple antibiotic resistance (MAR) index in studied bacterial strains

The antibiogram indicated a multiple antibiotic resistance (MAR) index > 0.2 in 86% of the bacteria (overall MAR=0.34).

Conclusions

- Some of the tested plant extracts could display a considerable antimicrobial activity on pathobionts of swine.
- These plants could enhance the welfare of the animals by reducing the potentially pathogenic, antibiotic resistant bacterial load, as an alternative to classical antibiotic therapy.



EFFECTS OF A. ABSITHIUM SUPPLEMENTED FEED ON THE SPECIFIC CELL-MEDIATED RESPONSE IN PIGS FROM A LOW-INPUT FARM

Raising pigs in extensive system enhances their susceptibility to changes in micro- and macro- climate (uncontrollable stressfull factor)

The infectious pressure is increased due to direct, unrestricted contact with the environment



Parasitic, bacterial and viral diseases cause major losses in swine, thus inducing a high health, welfare and also economic impact.

More and more wide-spreading freerange farming depends on the factors targeting environment protection, plant health, animal health, food safety, and consumer health.



Under immune suppressive circumstances it is important to define and use

imunestimulating/imunomodulating products of vegetal origin

Potentiate the host ability to control infection



Diminishes the allopatic/synthetic drug consumption



Prevents antibiotic resistance

Objectives



Alcoholic plant extracts were prepared according to the provisions of German pharmacopoeia by the University of Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Method 1. A new LC-MS method was used to identify 6 polyphenols in WS extracts: epicatechin, catechin, syringic acid, gallic acid, protocatechuic acid and vanilic acid.

Method 2. The MS signal was used only for qualitative analysis based on specific mass spectra of each polyphenol. The MS spectra obtained from a stanYesrd solution of polyphenols were integrated in a mass spectra library.

Dosages of *Artemisia absinthium* were established based on the literature



The research was carried out on extensively raised Mangalitza suckling, weaned piglets and sows (n=10 for each group).

The feed supplemented with 5‰ *Artemisia absinthium* L and granulated was admninistered as daily ratio for 7-10 days/group.





Blood was sampled before and after the end of oral treatment period; then it was mixed with RPMI1640 (1:4, Sigma Aldrich, USA), divided in 200µl aliquots in 96 well-plates and supplemented with alcoholic plant extracts (*Calendula officinalis, Satureja hortensis, Allium sativum, Coriandrum sativum, Cucurbita maxima,* 1.5 µl/well).



The plates were incubated at 37°C for 48 h, residual glucose was quantified spectrophotometrically (SUMAL PE2, Karl Zeiss, Jena) and stimulation indices (SI %) were calculated.







The groups were compared by Student's t test for statistical significance of the results.



The MS spectra obtained for poliphenols in *Artemisia absinthium*

Chlorogenic acid

antidiabetic effect, DNA protective effect, and <u>neuroprotective</u> effect. inhibitory activity against <u>hepatitis B virus</u> (HBV) in vivo and in vitro <u>antioxidant</u>

Polyphenols (method 1)							
Nr. pe cromatogramă	Compus	Nr.	Identified UV	Identified by qualitatuive MS	Concentration in the extract (µg/ml)		
1	Clorogenic acid	4	Yes	Yes	107.150		
2	p-cumaric acid	5	Yes	Yes	0.621		
3	Ferulic acid	6	Yes	Yes	0.759		
4	Vitexine	8	Yes	Yes	1.631		
5	Isoquercitrine	11	Yes	Yes	56.754		
6	Rutozid	12	Yes	Yes	3.826		
7	Quercitrine	15	Yes	Yes	1.113		
8	Quercetol	17	Yes	Yes	6.285		
9	Luteoline	20	Yes	Yes	1.159		
10	Kaempferol	21	Yes	Yes	3.666		
11	Apigenine	22	Yes	Yes	0.481		

Polyphenols (method 2)				
Siringic acid	1.85 (μg/mL)			
Protocatechuic acid	1.32 (μg/mL)			
Vanilic acid	1.98 (μg/mL)			

Metoxilat	e flavones	Tocopherols			
Eupatorine	976.53 (ng/mL)	Alpha-tocopherol	50.0 (ng/mL)		
Casticine	15385.14 (ng/mL)	Gamma-tocopherol	23.8 (ng/mL)		
Hispidulin e	3047.92 (ng/mL)	Delta-tocopherol	5.0 (ng/mL)		

The extract of *Artemisia annua L*. has been provides anti-inflammatory, antibacterial and antimicrobial properties which can be considered as a promising medicinal component in therapeutic applications.

Ste	rols	Sesquiterpen lactones			
Ergosterol	344 (ng/mL)	Alfa-santonin	450.52 (ng/mL)		
Stigmasterol	34831 (ng/mL)				
Beta-sitosterol	140985 (ng/mL)	Vulgarin	6499.39 (ng/mL)		
Campesterol	3329 (ng/mL)				

Vulgarin possesses strong and stable binding efficiency with multidrug resistant (MDR) *Acinetobacter baumannii eflux protein* (Ab-EP), a known pathogen for one health

Suvaithenamudhan, S.; Ananth, S.; Mariappan, V.; Dhayabaran, V.V.; Parthasarathy, S.; Ganesh, P.S.; Shankar, E.M. *In Silico* Evaluation of Bioactive Compounds of *Artemisia pallens* Targeting the Efflux Protein of Multidrug-Resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* (LAC-4 Strain). *Molecules* **2022**, *27*, 5188

Beta-sitosterol exhibited the potential to inhibit the biosynthesis of peptidoglycan and prevent bacteria cell wall formation

Evangelina IA, Herdiyati Y, Laviana A, Rikmasari R, Zubaedah C, Anisah, Kurnia D. Bio-Mechanism Inhibitory Prediction of β-Sitosterol from Kemangi (*Ocimum basilicum* L.) as an Inhibitor of MurA Enzyme of Oral Bacteria: In vitro and in silico Study. Adv Appl Bioinform Chem. 2021 Jun 23;14:103-115.

The oral treatment with the *A. absithium* supplemented feed significantly (p<0.05-0.001) decreased all SI%, the least in suckling piglets.

Only the extract of *C.maxima* acted stimulating in suckling piglets (53.37±7.13%).



Before

After



None of the extracts acted stimulating, the lowest indices being recorded for *C. sativum*, within the negative range in weaners and sows.

Only the extract of *C.maxima* acted stimulating in suckling piglets (53.37±7.13%).

Before

After





None of the extracts acted stimulating, the lowest indices being recorded for *C. sativum*, within the negative range in weaners and sows.



Before



After

Conclusion

The results indicated negative effects of *A. absinthium* on the specific immune response when administered orally in pigs, suggesting the eventual reconsideration of its administration dosage/protocole.



