



***Calendula officinalis* and *Satureja hortensis*, effective natural remedies for treating digestive parasitosis in pigs (*Sus scrofa ssp.domesticus*)**

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Background

Parasitic infections affect pig production and cause economic losses, especially for farmers and organic producers.



Objectives

The objective of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of *C. officinalis* and *S. hortensis*, in combating naturally occurring digestive parasitosis in swine, from a free-range farm in Cluj county, Romania.



Material and Methods

The experimental protocol lasted for 60 days.

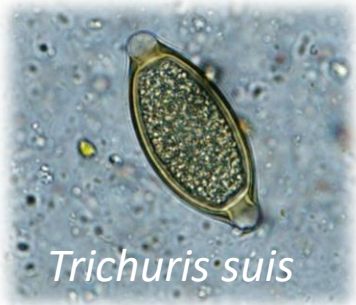
S. hortensis (100 mg/kg bw/day) and *C. officinalis* (140 mg/kg bw/day) powders were administered for ten consecutive days.

In total of 180 fecal samples were obtained (days 0, 14th and 28th) from weaners, fatteners, and sows.

The parasitic burden and identification were obtained by using sedimentation, flotation, McMaster, modified Blagg, and modified Ziehl-Neelsen methods.

Results

The examination of the samples resulted in the identification of *Eimeria* spp., *Balantioides coli*, *Ascaris suum*, and *Trichuris suis* infections. The antiprotozoal and anthelmintic effects increased by day 14, and reached maximum therapeutic effect by day 28.



Parasite	Weaners %		Fatteners %		Sows %	
	D 14	D 28	D 14	D 28	D 14	D 28
<i>Eimeria</i> spp.	25.3	45.4	41.8	19.8	49.2	61.8
<i>B. coli</i>	28.6	27.3	21.8	22.9	42.7	29.7
<i>A. suum</i>	-	-	38.58	45.4	23.2	65.4
<i>T. suis</i>	-	-	25.9	37.6	-	-





Conclusion

The findings of this study suggest that *C. officinalis* and *S. hortensis* are promising natural alternatives for antiparasitic medication for treating gastrointestinal parasites in swine.



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