



Effective natural remedies for treating digestive parasitosis in pigs

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EMOP XIV
Wroclaw / Poland



Background

Parasitic diseases greatly affect pig production, causing economic losses through high morbidity and mortality, particularly challenging for smallholders and organic producers. Phytotherapeutics are available and used worldwide, however evidence of their antiparasitic efficacy is currently very limited.

Aim

The objective of this study, conducted in a free-range Transylvanian farm, was to evaluate the effectiveness of *Allium sativum* L., and *Artemisia absinthium* L., native to Romania flora, in combating naturally occurring digestive parasites in pigs.

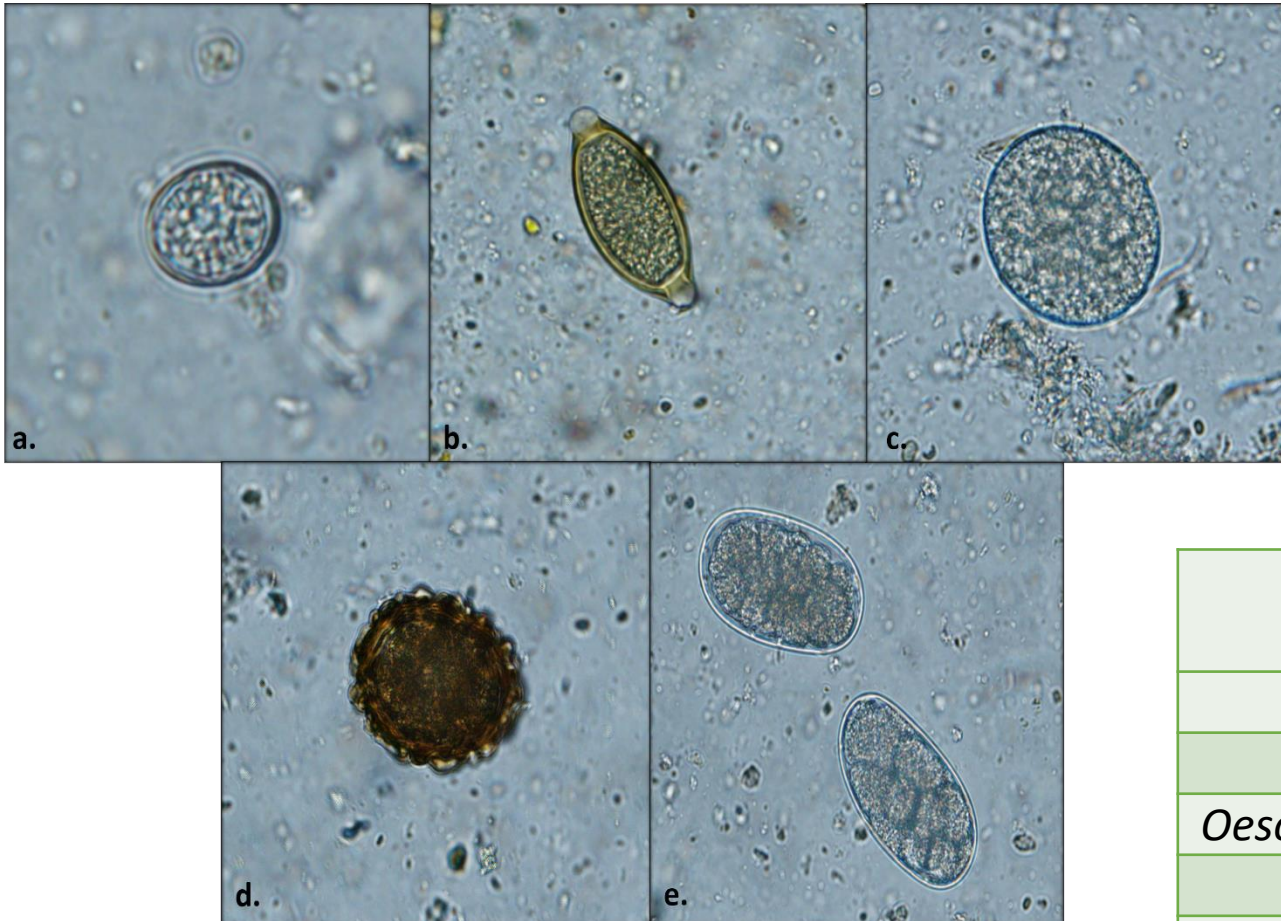


Materials and methods

A total of 180 faecal samples were obtained from three age groups: weaners, fatteners, and sows. Parasite identification and quantification of parasitic load were conducted using flotation (Willis and McMaster method), modified Ziehl-Neelsen stained faecal smears, centrifugal sedimentation, modified Blagg technique, and faecal cultures.

Results

The examination identified infections with *Eimeria* spp. (a), *Trichuris suis* (b), *Balantioides coli* (c), *Ascaris suum* (d), and *Oesophagostomum* spp. (e) categorized by age group. Administering 180 mg/kg bw/day of *A. sativum* and 50 mg/kg bw/day of *A. absinthium* powders for 10 consecutive days demonstrated significant, taxonomy-specific antiprotozoal and anthelmintic effects.



Antiparasitic efficacy %

Parasite	<i>A. sativum</i> + <i>A. absinthium</i>		
	Weaners	Fatteners	Sows
<i>Eimeria</i> spp.	66.1	-	-
<i>B. coli</i>	60.3	-	41.2
<i>Oesophagostomum</i> spp.	48.7	-	43.7
<i>A. suum</i>	-	57.9	55.6
<i>T. suis</i>	-	53.5	-



Conclusion

In summary, our findings suggest that *A. sativum* and *A. absinthium* are promising alternatives to commercially available antiparasitic drugs, offering natural options for treating digestive parasites in swine.



Acknowledgements

The research was supported by the PPILOW project. The PPILOW project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement N°816172.