

Parasites Identified in Chickens and Livestock Raised in Salikneta Farm

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ABSTRACT: Ectoparasites and endoparasites were examined in chickens (Sasso and Dekalb white) and livestock (cattle, water buffaloes, sheep and goats) raised in Salikneta Farm, Barangay Tungkong, Mangga, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan covering six visits between June-October 2011. Endoparasites were detected thru direct fecalysis and/or the modified floatation method, examination of blood smears of medium and large animals, and necropsy of dead/sick/slaughtered chickens. Ectoparasites were either hand-picked or collected using forceps. Sasso chickens had infestations with three different species of lice, namely: *Menacanthus stramineus*, *Goniocotes gallinae* and *Lipeurus caponis*, while the Dekalb white chickens had infestation with ectoparasitic mites only, namely: *Ornithonyssus* sp. and *Diplaegidia* sp. Only hard ticks belonging to *Boophilus* sp. were spotted in cattle. Chickens revealed infections with two very common intestinal roundworms, *Ascaridia galli* and *Heterakis gallinarum*, in addition to the less common roundworm *Capillaria bursata* and the tapeworm *Raillietina* sp. Intestinal worms *Haemonchus contortus* and *Trichostrongyloides*-like nematodes were isolated from cattle and water buffaloes, respectively. This initial account of parasitism in farm animals underpins the need for a sustained/continued monitoring of their health and living conditions.

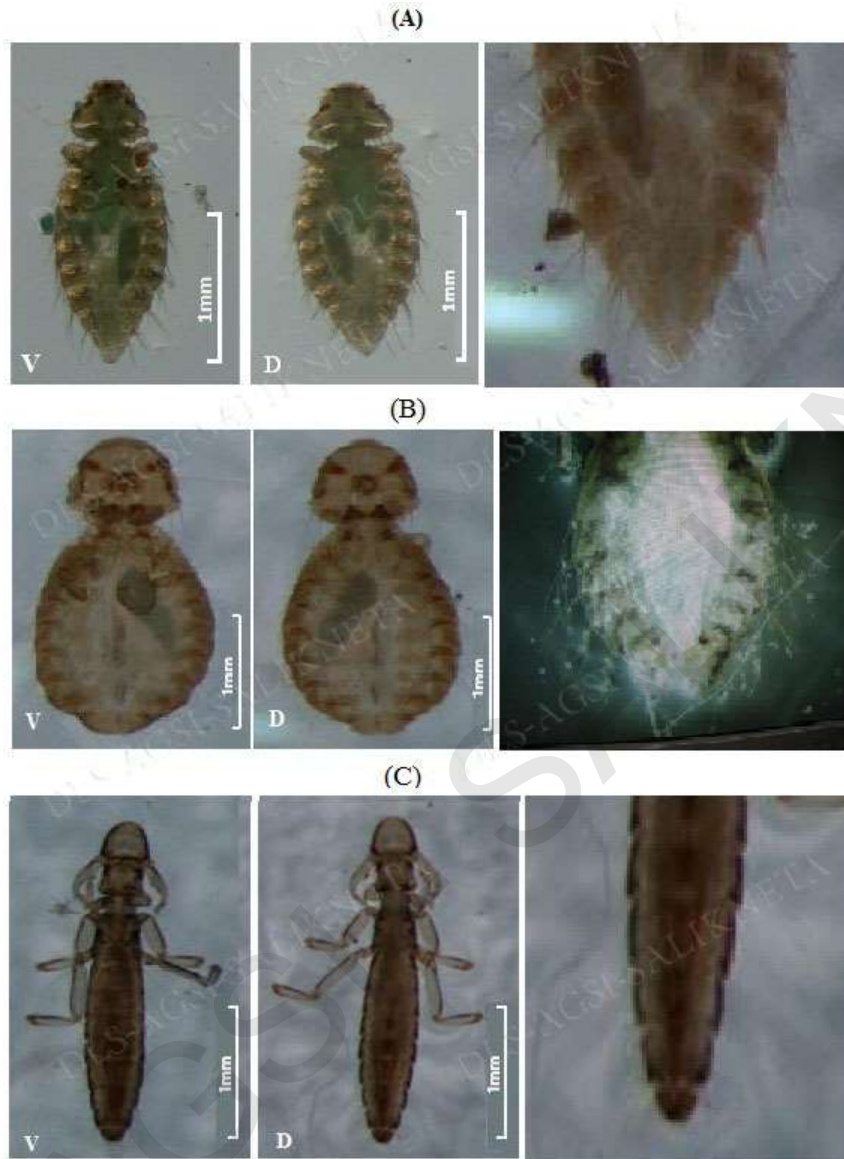


Figure 1. Species of lice isolated from Sasso chickens. A. *Menacanthus stramineus*. B. *Goniocotes gallinae*. C. *Lipeurus caponis*. (D) Dorsal; (V) Ventral

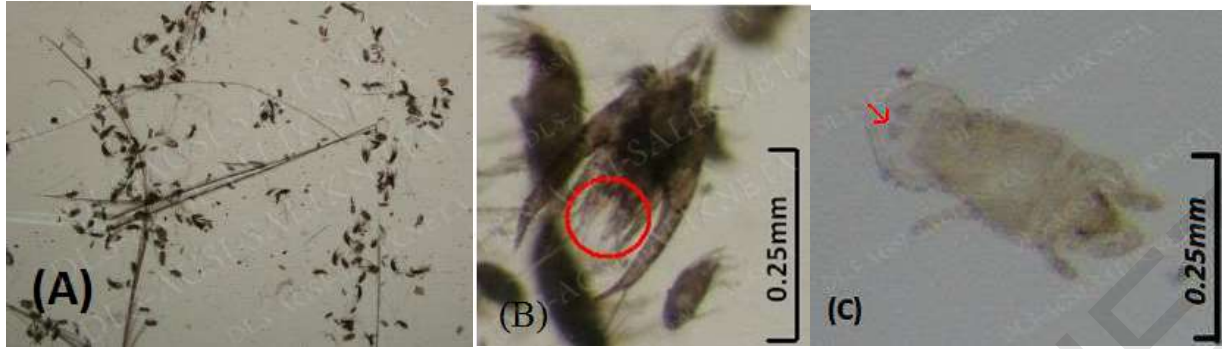


Figure 2. Species of mites isolated from Dekalb white chicken. A. Numerous *Diplaeigia* sp mites isolated from one chicken. B. *Diplaeigia* sp. with forked abdomen and pair of cerci (encircled). C. *Ornithonyssus* sp. showing paired pedipalps (short arrow)

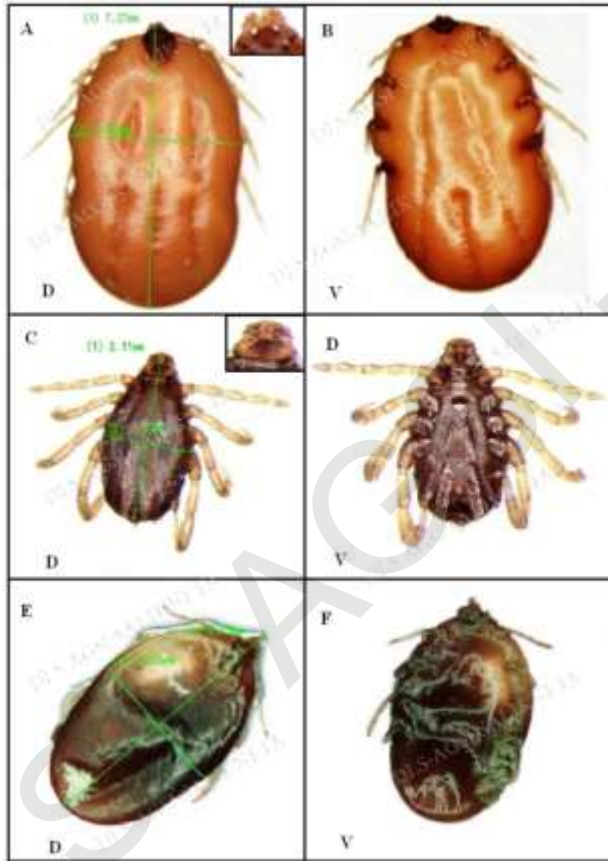


Figure 3. Hard Ticks *Boophilus* sp. A & B. Engorged female with capitulum (inset). C & D. Unengorged male with capitulum (inset). E & F. Nymph. Dorsal (D); Ventral (V).

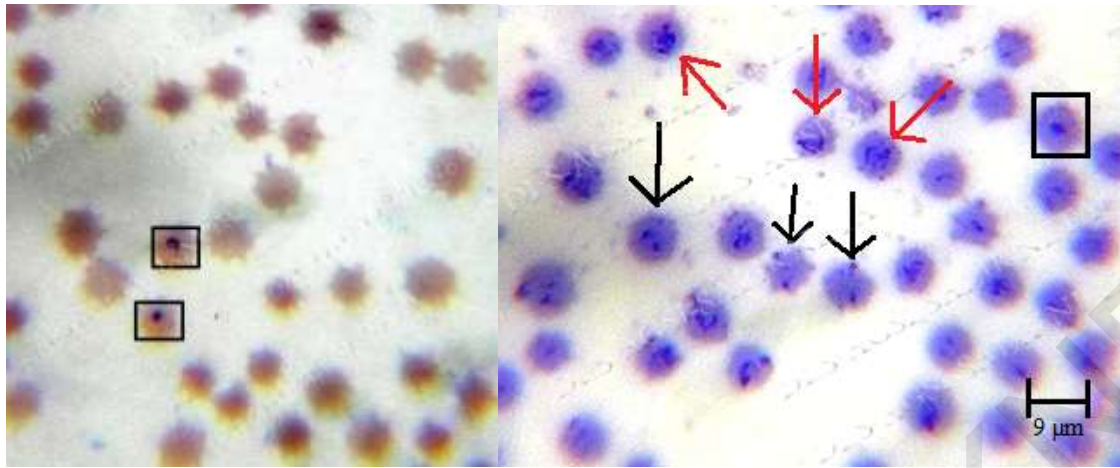


Figure 4. Blood smears of cattle showing *Babesia* sp.-infected erythrocytes (arrows and squares).

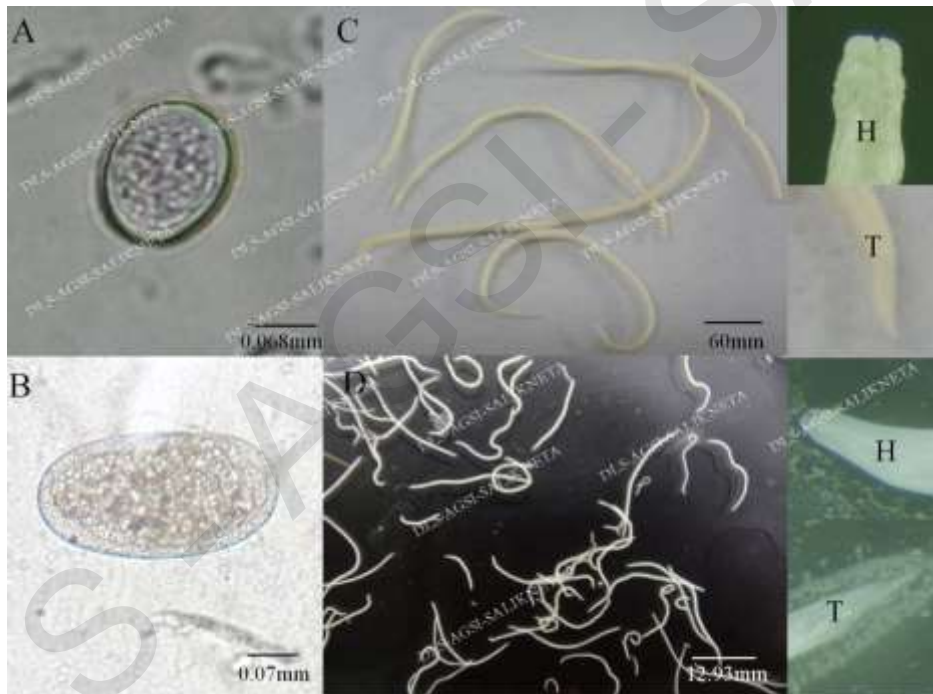


Figure 5. Endoparasites in chickens. A. *Ascaridia galli* egg. B. *Heterakis gallinarum* egg. C. Adult *A. galli* showing head (H) and tail (T). D. Adult *Capillaria bursata* showing head and tail

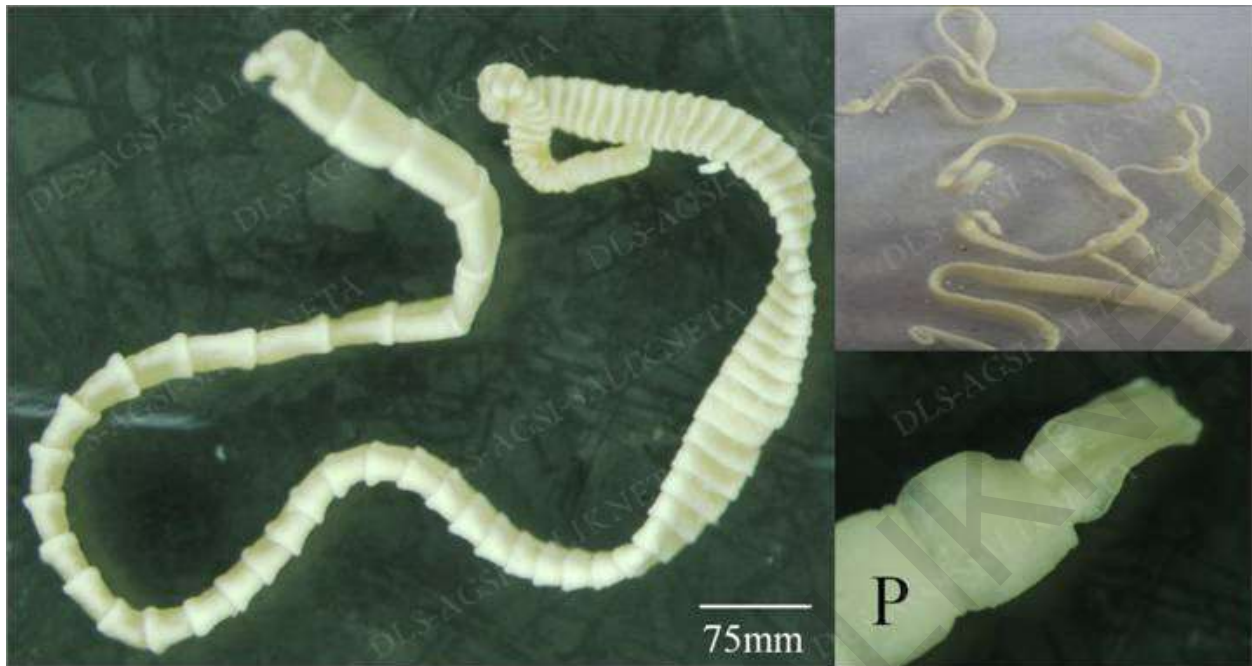


Figure 6. Tapeworms *Raillietina* sp. detected in Dekalb white chickens showing proglottids (P).

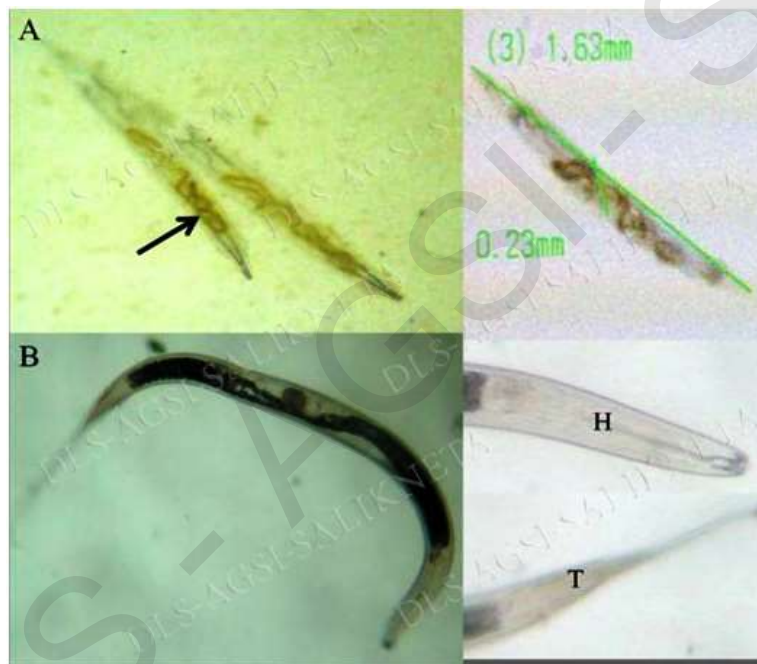


Figure 7. A & B.. Intestinal parasite, *Haemonchus contortus* detected in cattle manure. Note the twisted appearance of the intestine of worms (arrow). B. *Trichostrongyloides*-like roundworms recovered from Carabao manure.