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NATURAL PROMASTIGOTE INFECTION OF SERGENTOMYJA SINTONI ITS SEASONAL VARIATION AND RESERVOIR HOST IN TURKEMEN SAHAPA IRAN

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Abstract:

A six month Survey (May-October1994) was conducted, to study natural promastigote infection of *S.sintoni*, its seasonal variation and reservoir host, in Turkemen Sahra, Iran. Sixty out of 403 *S.sintoni* dissected were found infected with promastigotes. This investigation showed that the peak of promastigote infection occurs in July (18.4%) and August (28.5%). Five lizards including one *Cyrtoopodion caspius* (Eichwald, 1831), two *Trapelus agilis* (Oliver 1804) and two *Eremias velox* (Pallas 1771) were captured, among them *C.caspius* was infected. Promastigotes were isolated from *S.santoni* and *C.caspius* and both isolates were identified as *L.(Sauroleishmaini) gymnodactyli* by isoenzyme characterization. This is the first report of isolation and characterization of this parasite from the vector and vertebrate host of lizard leishmaniasis in Iran.

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