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Preliminary Data for the Presence of Q-Fever in Animals in Some of the Regions of Western Macedonia

Ismije Saiti[1,*], Violeta Dukoska[3], Florinda Balla[4], Kristaq Bërxholi[2]

[1]*Natural-Mathematical Sciences, Faculty of Biology and Biochemistry, State University of Tetovo, Macedonia;* [2]*Department of Veterinary Public Health, Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania;* [3]*DVM MSc of Gostivar, Macedonia;* [4]*MSc Institute of Public Health of Tirana, Albania*

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Abstract: Q fever, a zoonotic disease, caused from *Coxiella burnetti* and is observed over the world. The aim of study was to examine the distribution of Q fever among the sheep, goats and cattle of four regions in Western Macedonia (Tetovo, Gostivar, Mavrovo and Debar). In total 752 blood samples were collected, from which 390 sheep, 68 goats and 294 cattle. The data taken in this study indicates for the presence of Q fever in these areas. The infection is widespread in two species, such as cattle and sheep and varies from 1.85% in Gostivar (S. Gora) to 23% in Tetovo. However, the infection has not been noticed in goats so far. For total 390 sheep, the serological infection reaches up to 15.89%, whereas for 294 cattle it is only 4.08%. The serums were conserved in -30 °C and a serological test - ELISA from IDvet Montpelier France was used, which is carried out based on its relevant protocol using purified antigen of *C. burnetii*.

Keywords: *Q-fever, Elisa test, Coxiella burnetii, epidemiology, animal reservoir.*

[*] *Corresponding: E-Mail: Ismije.saiti@hotmail.com Tel: +38978246835*