RESUMO SIMPLES - PROTOZOÁRIOS E AGENTES TRANSMITIDOS POR VETORES DE IMPORTÂNCIA EM SAÚDE

INVESTIGATION AND MORPHOLOGICAL AND MOLECULAR CHARACTERIZATION OF PARASITES OF WILD ANIMALS OF THE ORDER CARNIVORA UNDER IN SITU AND EX SITU CONDITIONS IN SOUTHEASTERN BRAZIL

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Studies in parasitology cover a wide field, including wild and/or exotic carnivores. The number of seizures of animals illegally removed from the wild by environmental and natural resource protection agencies shows that these animals are increasingly distant from their natural habitat and close to domestic animals and humans. These animals can harbor a variety of pathogens and arthropods. This study aims to research, diagnose, and identify the ectoparasites and hemoparasites that infest/infect wild carnivores originating from captivity or received by wildlife screening and/or rehabilitation centers in southeastern Brazil. The following locations will be used for sample collection:

municipal parks, public and private zoological parks, as well as wildlife screening and rehabilitation centers (CETAS and CRAS) located in southeastern Brazil. The ectoparasite samples will be analyzed in the laboratory using specific taxonomic keys for each arthropod in order to reach a diagnosis. Blood samples obtained will be properly processed in the laboratory to perform direct diagnostic methods for the detection of hemoparasites, including the blood smear technique and polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Amplified DNA products will undergo sequencing for species characterization. It is hoped that this study will provide new information about parasites and their occurrence in this fauna, which can serve as a basis for planning and adopting management measures for conservation projects and health protocols for animals kept in human care.

Palavras-chave: ectoparasites; hemoparasites; wild fauna; taxonomy; pcr.