RESUMO - HELMINTOLOGIA

PREVALENCE OF FASCIOLA HEPATICA AND ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE DEGREE OF INFECTION AND BODY CONDITION IN SHEEP SLAUGHTERED AT THE AYAVIRI SLAUGHTERHOUSE, PUNO REGION, PERU, 2026.

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Fasciola hepatica is a trematode of significant importance in animal production and health; however, it is also an emerging zoonotic disease, and it is estimated that between 2.6 and 17 million people worldwide may be infected. Fasciolosis is endemic, and in some cases hyperendemic, where the situation must be recognized as a public health emergency. Previous studies indicate that fasciolosis does not affect the body condition or carcass weight of cattle slaughtered at the municipal slaughterhouse in Abancay. In Huamanga, a prevalence of 42.2% was found in sheep; by age, 36.3% of one-year-old sheep were infected, and by sex, 28.6% of male sheep were infected. In Lambayeque, the prevalence of Fasciola hepatica in slaughtered sheep was 8.3% in females

and 3.6% in males. The type of culling was 33% partial and 67% total. In Mexico, a prevalence of 6.20% was detected in hairy sheep. The objective of this research was to determine the prevalence of Fasciola hepatica and the association between the degree of infection and body condition in sheep slaughtered at the Ayaviri slaughterhouse, Puno Region, Peru, 2026. The livers of 264 sheep, including both males and females of different ages, were examined during the months of January, February, and March 2026. The overall prevalence was 18.3%. The prevalence in males was 26.42% and in females 16.24%, with no statistically significant difference (p=0.134>0.05); the odds ratio was 1.85, meaning males were 1.85 times more likely to test positive compared to females. The highest prevalence was observed in the 2-year-old group (27.78%), followed by the 1-year-old group (23.08%). The 3-year-old and 4-year-old and older groups showed lower prevalences. However, there was no statistically significant difference in the prevalence of fasciolosis among the age groups (p = 0.3464 > 0.05). Regarding the Odds Ratio (OR) = 1.99, 2-year-old sheep showed the highest trend (OR ˜ 2), consistent with the highest prevalence observed. On the other hand, the relationship between the degree of infection (number of flukes) and body condition did not show a statistically significant monotonic association (p = 0.8534 > 0.05).

Palavras-chave: body condition; fasciolosis; sheep; prevalence.