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Sero-prevalence investigation of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) and associated risk factors in Libya during 2015-2016**Abdusalam Sharef Mahmoud², Daria Di Sabatino¹, Maria Luisa Danzetta¹, Francesco Tolari³, Mario Forzan³, Maurizio Mazzei³, Abdunaser Dayhum², Federica Monaco and Zakaria Alkhatal**¹L'Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise, Italy²University of Tripoli, Libya³University of Pisa, Italy

Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) is considered one of the most important transboundary animal diseases (TADs) with socio-economic impacts on national and international levels. During 2015-2016 a total of 690 serum samples were collected from unvaccinated domestic ruminants of which 555 sheep and 135 goats representing ten provinces distributed in four Libyan branches (Green Mountain, Benghazi, West Mountain and Sabha). The sample were analysed at IZSAM, Teramo, Italy, by using competitive ELISA, IDvet innovative diagnostics (IDvet, 310 rue Louis Pasteur-34790 Grabels, France). The overall seroprevalence rate (SPR) of PPR antibodies was estimated to be 41% (95% CL: 36% to 46%) among sheep and 39%

(95% CL: 28% to 45%) among goat. A chi-square test was used to evaluate the probability of differences observed among SPR of infection. The results showed that the SPR of PPR was significantly ($P= 0.015$) higher in adult animals 41% (95% CL= 37%-46%) than in the young 24% (95% CL= 17%-32%). The highest SPR 75% (95% CL= 61%-85%) was recorded in Sabha province (Southern Libya) which highlighted statistically difference ($P= 0.00001$). The preliminary results of the present study could be useful to better focus on specific area of Libya to improve understand and evaluate the risk factors for disease spreading and to plan disease control activities as requested by FAO/OIE (PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy).

Biography

Abdusalam Sharef Mahmoud has completed BVSc from Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tripoli and Master in Veterinary and Animal Science (MVSc) from Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU) Ludhiana, India. He received the PhD in Veterinary Sciences from University of Pisa, Department of Veterinary Science. He is working at Department of Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tripoli.

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