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Facultad de Medicina Veterinaria y Zootecnia, Asociación Científica Mundial de Cunicultura – Rama Americana Secretaría de Desarrollo Agropecuario del Gobierno del Estado de México, Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación, Consejo Mexiquense de Ciencia y Tecnología

## FUNGAL ZOONOSES IN A RABBIT FARM

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## ABSTRACT

Rabbit Ringworm disease is now the most widely distributed in the industrial and family farms of Argentina, which can produce greatest economic losses in rabbit farm. This ringworm could be installed in many hatcheries since its foundation and also can get tools, crates or contaminated materials from animals with traces of hair with fungi spore. Typical symptoms of ringworm are plaques on the face, hands, ears, and less frequently in the rest of the body. The affected area shows the red or pink with a thin crust on skin. Objective: determine the presence of Dermatophytosis in a farm of the Province of Buenos Aires. In this way, we checked infrastructure, hygiene, health status of the animals, and also took samples from ringworm rabbits, personal injury with compatible ringworm, hens with alopecia areas who shared the same line of cages for development and environment samples. Samples from animals and humans were obtained by removal and / or scraping of hair and feathers in the case of hens. Direct microscopic observation using 40 % KOH and cultured on Sabouraud agar with chloramphenicol and cycloheximide was made for these samples. For food, bed and environment, the hook technique we used (plates with sterile dirt and hairs were inoculated with samples). They were incubated at 25/28°C between 7 and 21 days. Positive cultures were identified by macro and micromorphology, and physiological tests (urea and attack hair in vitro). Samples from rabbits, humans, and environment were positive to direct examination and also Trichophyton mentagrophytes was isolated in all cases. In addition, samples of hens were negative on direct examination but T. mentagrophytes was isolated.



493



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These results show the ability of this zoonotic to be spread. Even more, the etiologic agent was detected in environmental samples, the staff that took care of the rabbits, the rabbits and hens who shared the room. It should be emphasize the importance of this situation in society because this farm was selling rabbits and chickens to people and could spread zoonoses. We highlight sanitary control as a tool to avoid the spread of these zoonoses.

Keywords: fungal zoonoses, meat rabbit; rabbit breeding.



494

