

## Parasites of Ungulates in the Jackson Hole Area

Robert C. Bergstrom  
University of Wyoming  
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During May, June and August of 1968, the writer made analyses of internal parasites of elk, Big Horn sheep and moose in the Jackson Hole area of Wyoming. Analyses were made by identification of eggs and larvae found in fresh feces of the host animals.

Data of Table I indicate the host animal, genera or probable genera of parasite, per cent incidence of the parasite and allows comparison of spring and summer incidence of the parasites. The data indicate the lungworm, Protostrongylus sp., threadnecked intestinal worms, Nematodirella sp. and Nematodirus sp. and the tapeworms, Moniezia sp. are most important (judged by incidence) in the Big Horn sheep while the lungworm, Dictyocaulus sp. is the most important parasite in the elk. Too few analyses were made on moose feces to make any statement about the parasite complement.

Incidence of lungworm larvae appeared to decrease slightly in the elk of the general Jackson Hole area from spring to summer. However, an atypical group of yearling elk that stay on the National Elk Refuge all summer had a high incidence (85%) of lungworms.

TABLE I. Internal Parasite Species in Ungulate Hosts, Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Spring (May-June, 1968)			
<u>Big Horn Sheep (7)</u>		<u>Elk (60)</u>	<u>Moose (2)</u>
<u>Parasite Species</u>	<u>Incid.</u>	<u>Incid.</u>	<u>Incid.</u>
<u>Protostrongylus</u> sp.	71%	0%	0%
<u>Marshallagia marshalli</u>	71	2	0
<u>Nematodirella</u> sp.	71	0	0
<u>Nematodirus</u> sp.	50	0	0
<u>Cooperia</u> sp.	0	18	0
<u>Trichostrongylus</u> sp.	0	3	30
<u>Moniezia</u> sp.	50	8	0
<u>Skrjabinema</u> sp.	14	0	0
<u>Dictyocaulus</u> sp.	0	32	0

## Summer (August, 1968)

Elk (86)

<u>Parasite Species</u>	<u>Incid.</u>
<u>Dictyocaulus</u> sp.	23%
<u>Nematodirus</u> sp.	11
<u>Moniezia</u> sp.	11
Coccidial oocysts	20

No sheep were checked. One moose was checked, but no parasites found.

Number in ( ) indicates number of host animals checked.

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