

A Survey of *Salmonella* infections in Ducks in Iran

Seyed Mostafa Peighambari

Department of Avian Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Javad Javidnezhad

Department of Avian Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Jamshid Razmyar

Department of Avian Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran

Abstract

Salmonella are bacilli-shaped, gram-negative and facultatively anaerobic microorganisms that can cause food poisoning in humans. In the transmission of this disease, the eggs and meat of the birds are very important. Ducks can play an important role in the transmission of *Salmonella* to humans. Breeding of ducks for the purpose of producing meat and eggs is hundred years old. The connection between duck and *Salmonella* has been known for many years and it is referred to as a cause-and-effect situation because it has been indicated that the consumption of duck eggs is very likely to be associated with stomach upset. The purpose of this investigation was to obtain more knowledge about the frequency of *Salmonella* infection in ducks in Iran. In this study, fecal samples were collected from four provinces of Iran. Each six fecal samples were pooled and 352 samples was obtained in total. In order to isolate *Salmonella*, all samples were cultured according to the previously described standard techniques. From a total of 352 stool samples, 20 *Salmonella* isolates (17.6%) were isolated. By comparing the conducted study and other researches in this field, it was shown that, like chicken flocks, *Salmonella* are circulating in duck flocks of Iran.

Keywords: *Salmonella*, Chicken, Duck, Infection, Bacteriology, Facal samples