National Journal of Life Sciences, **Vol. 17(2) 2020 : 81-86** ISSN : 0972-995X (Print), 2321-7960 (Online)

ENTERIC PARASITES WITH ZOONOTIC IMPORTANCE IN JACKAL (*CANIS AUREUS* LINNAEUS,1758)

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ABSTRACT : The investigation was conducted to determine the prevalence of gastrointestinal parasites in jackal of Barisal, Bangladesh. The study period was May,2017-April,2018. Out of 30 jackal, 25 jackal (83.33%) were infected by different species of parasites. The association of age, sex of the hosts and season were also observed. Fecal analyses were screened via using Formol-Ether concentration technique for parasite ova, cysts, oocysts and larvae. During the study period, total thirteen species of parasites were identified. Among them *Toxocara canis* had highest prevalence rate (83.33%) and higher prevalence followed by *Isospora* spp. (76.67%), *Ancylostoma* spp. (76.67%), *Echinococcus granulosus* (53.33%) and *Mesocestoides lineatus* (53.33%). The prevalence of parasites in jackal was highest in 4-5 years age group (85.71%) and 8-9 years age group (85.71%) and was statistically significant ($p<0.05$). In all years age groups, *Toxocara canis* had highest prevalence (85.71%). Females (100%) had higher infection than the males (76.92%). Statistically it was also significant ($p<0.05$). The parasites which had higher prevalence rate in females were *Toxocara canis* (100%) and *Isospora* sp. (82.35). *Ancylostoma* spp. (76.92%), *Toxocara canis* and *Isospora* sp. (69.23%) had higher prevalence rate in males. Prevalence of parasite species in jackal was highest in summer (100%) and in winter (100%) and was statistically significant ($p<0.05$). From the above result, it could be stated that jackal act as zoonotic agent which is a threat for human health.

Key words : *Jackals, Gastrointestinal parasites, Zoonotic importance, Prevalence.*