

Medical and Veterinary Parasitology

Carlos Henrique Marchiori¹

¹ Instituto Federal Goiano

Veterinary Parasitology is the study of animal parasites, especially relationships between parasites and animal hosts. Parasites of domestic animals, (livestock and pet animals), as well as wildlife animals are considered. Using a variety of research methods, they diagnose, treat, and prevent animal parasitoses (Deplazes, et al. 2016).

Medical Parasitology is the branch of sciences dealing with parasites which infect humans, the diseases caused by them, clinical picture and the response produced by humans against them. It is also concerned with various methods of their diagnosis, treatment and their prevention & control (Pikarski, G. 2010).

Introduction to Parasitology. Medical Parasitology traditionally has included the study of three major groups of animals: parasitic protozoa, parasitic helminths (worms), and those arthropods that directly cause disease or act as vectors of various pathogens (Pikarski, G. 2010).

Parasites are organisms that use other species of plants and animals as hosts. The hosts provide the environment in which the parasite lives (Pikarski, G. 2010).

The father of Parasitology – Platter, The Italian Francesco Redi, considered to be the father of modern Parasitology, he was the first to recognize and correctly describe details of many important parasites (Pikarski, G. 2010).

Parasitology is the study of parasites, their hosts, and the relationship between them. As a biological discipline, the scope of Parasitology is not determined by the organism or environment in question but by their way of life (Pikarski, G. 2010).

Parasitology is the scientific discipline concerned with the study of the Biology of parasites and parasitic diseases, including the distribution, biochemistry, physiology, molecular biology, ecology, evolution and clinical aspects of parasites, including the host response to these agents (Pikarski, G. 2010).

A parasitic relationship is one in which one organism, the parasite, lives off of another organism, the host, harming it and possibly causing death. A few examples of parasites are tapeworms, fleas, and barnacles (<https://www.aboutbioscience.org › careers › parasitologist>).

References

Deplazes, et al. 2016. Parasitology in Veterinary Medicine. Wageningen Academic Publishers. 650 pp. <https://doi.org/10.3920/978-90-8686-274-0>.
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Pikarski, G. 2010. Medical Parasitology. University of Cambridge. 175 pp.