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BACTERIA ASSOCIATED WITH SUBCLINICAL BOVINE MASTITIS IN SMALL DAIRY FARMS

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Subclinical mastitis is an extensive problem in the dairy industry worldwide with particular concern in developing countries. The aim of this study was to determine the presence of subclinical mastitis and to identify the most common bacteria associated with it. Milk samples (n=1086) were obtained from 92 dairy cows (362 udder quarters) in 3 consecutive samplings 24-48 hours apart. The samples were cultured on routine bacteriological growth media. Individual bacterial colonies were identified using MALDI-TOF/SARAMIS™ platform. The quarter was considered infected if 2 out of 3 milk samples were tested positive (>10cfu/10µl, *Staphylococcus aureus* >1 cfu/10 µl). Subclinical mastitis was confirmed in 56 animals (60.8%). One hundred and thirty nine bacteria were isolated and 111 were identified to the species level. Twenty eight bacteria were not identified by the SARAMIS software. *Streptococcus uberis* was the most frequent isolate found in 25% (35/139) of the isolated bacteria, followed by *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* with 17.9% (25/139), *Staphylococcus aureus* with 7.1% (10/139), *Staphylococcus epidermidis* with 5.03% (7/139), *Lactococcus lactis* with 4.3% (6/139), *Aerococcus viridians* with 4.3% (6/139), *Staphylococcus simulans* with 3.5% (5/139), *Enterococcus faecalis* with 2.8% (4/139), *Escherihia coli* with 2.1% (3/139), *Bacillus cereus* with 1.4% (2/139), *Staphylococcus chromogenes* with 1.4% (2/139), *Staphylococcus gallolyticus* with 1.4% (2/139), *Streptococcus bovis* with 0.7% (1/139), *Staphylococcus hyicus* with 0.7% (1/139), *Staphylococcus warneri* with 0.7% (1/139) and *Staphylococcus xylosus* with 0.7% (1/139). Subclinical mastitis is highly present in the selected small dairy farms. The most prevalent bacteria identified in the dairy farms (*S. uberis* and coagulase-negative staphylococci) indicate that environmental and management conditions act as risk factors for occurrence and persistence of subclinical mastitis.

Key words: subclinical mastitis, bacteria, *Streptococcus uberis*

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Red deer (*Cervus*)
and order *Cetart*
of Slavonia and
kotar. In this pap
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was washed out th
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eggs and *Giardia*
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(30%), *Setaria* sp
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We have also det
species and one c
in two animals.

Key words: