

A SURVEY OF ECTOPARASITIC ARTHROPODS ON DOMESTIC ANIMALS IN TAK PROVINCE, THAILAND

Tanasak Changbunjong, Ruangrat Buddhironawat, Sarin Suwanpakdee, Jarunee Siengsanant, Plern Yongyuttawichai, Kecha Cheewajorn, Juthathip Jangjaras, Charoonluk Sangloun and Parntep Ratanakorn

The Monitoring and Surveillance Center for Zoonotic Disease in Wildlife and Exotic Animals, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Mahidol University, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand

Abstract. In July 2008 a survey of ectoparasites on domestic animals was conducted in the Royal Thai Army areas of operation along the Thai-Myanmar Border, Tak Province, Thailand. Eleven different ectoparasites were collected: two species of hard ticks (Ixodidae), three species of fleas (Siphonaptera) and 6 species of sucking or chewing lice (2 species each in the suborders Anoplura, Ischnocera and Amblycera) were collected. Domestic dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*) ($n=94$) were found infested with 2 species of flea *Ctenocephalides felis orientis* (86.2%) and *Echidnophaga gallinacea* (1.1%), one species of tick, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* (21.3%), and one louse species, *Heterodoxus spiniger* (7.4%). Domestic cats (*Felis catus*) ($n=6$) were found infested with only flea species, *Ctenocephalides felis felis* (100%) and *E. gallinacea* (33.3%). Cattle (*Bos indicus*) ($n=11$) had *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus) microplus* (72.7%), *Linognathus vituli* (27.3%), and *Solenopotes capillatus* (9.1%) present, while chickens (*Gallus domesticus*) ($n=10$) had infestations with *E. gallinacea* (20%), and 3 lice species, *Lipeurus caponis* (10%), *Goniodes dissimilis* (10%) and *Menopon gallinae* (60%). This is believed to be the first report of *S. capillatus* collected in Thailand.

Correspondence: Tanasak Changbunjong, The Monitoring and Surveillance Center for Zoonotic Disease in Wildlife and Exotic Animals, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Mahidol University, 999 Putthamontol-4 Road, Salaya, Nakhon Pathom 73170, Thailand.

Tel: 66 (0) 2441 5238; Fax: 66 (0) 2441 5238

E-mail: g4837556@hotmail.com