



A STUDY OF SOME PARASITES OF RABBITS OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

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Fifty-two *Sylvilagus floridans* (cotton-tails), seventeen *Lepus californicus* (jack rabbits) and four *Lepus aquaticus* (swamp rabbits) from eighteen areas of central Oklahoma were autopsied for parasites. Examinations were made for external parasites and of the following organs: frontal sinus, nasal sinus, orbital sinus, muscles, thoracic, abdominal and pelvic cavities. Smears were made of spleen, liver, blood and feces.

Parasites found were grouped as follows: twelve species of Arthropods, four Cestodes, seven Nematodes and five Protozoa.

ARTHROPODS.

1. Fleas.

Pulex dugessi, was found on six jack rabbits and two cotton tails.

Hoplopyllus anomalis, the rabbit flea, was found on all rabbits.

Spilopsyllus simplex, was found on ten cotton tails.

S. Inequalis, was found on four cotton tails.

Ctenocephalus felis, was found on one cotton tail.

Ceratophyllus multispinosus, from two jack rabbits.

Ceratophyllus wickhami, from one cotton tail.

2. Mites.

Trombicula irritans, harvest mite, on all rabbits collected in summer and early autumn, was present on 3 per cent of others.

Psoroptes communis cuniculi, ear itch mite, was present on six cotton tails, two jack rabbits, and one swamp rabbit.

3. Sucking Lice.

Haemodipsus leporis, sucking louse, was collected from three jack rabbits.

4. Ticks.

Haemophysalis leporis-palustris, was found on ten cotton tails, six jack rabbits, and one swamp rabbit.

Ixodes marxi, one specimen was taken from a jack rabbit.

CESTODA.

1. *Cysticercus pisiformis*, cystic stage of *T. pisiformis*, was collected from thirty-two cotton tails, one jack rabbit, and two swamp rabbits.

2. *Multiceps serialis*, was collected from six jack rabbits.

3. *Multiceps packi*, was taken from two jack rabbits.

4. *Cittotenia ctenoides*, was taken from fourteen cotton tails, two jack rabbits, and one swamp rabbit.

NEMATODA.

1. *Hepaticola hepatica* was collected from one cotton tail.

2. *Trichuris leporis* was taken from two swamp rabbits.

3. *Passalurius amhiguus* was collected from twelve cotton tails and three jack rabbits.

4. *Obeliscoides cuniculi* was taken from sixteen cotton tails, three jack rabbits, and two swamp rabbits.

5. *Graphidium strigosus* was collected from six cotton tails and one swamp rabbit.

6. *Nematoda leporis* was collected from three jack rabbits and two swamp rabbits.

7. One unidentified nematode from submucosa of gall-bladder of a jack rabbit.

PROTOZOA.

1. *Eimeria stiedae* was collected from seven cotton tails and two jack rabbits.

2. *Trypanosoma* sp. was collected from two jack rabbits and one swamp rabbit.

3. *Giardia duodenalis* was collected from fifty-three cotton tails, eleven jack rabbits, and one swamp rabbit.

4. *Endamaeda cuniculi* was collected from four cotton tails and two jack rabbits.

5. *Enteromonas intestinalis* was collected from four cotton tails, two jack rabbits, and one swamp rabbit.

