

The nematode community in roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) from southern Poland

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The aim of the study was to make a qualitative and quantitative comparison of infracommunities in roe deer originating from environmentally distinct hunting areas (i.e. forest, mountain and arable land). The analyzed parasitic nematode community was composed of samples of gastro-intestinal nematodes (21 species) obtained from 80 individuals collected during four hunting seasons (from 2008 to 2015). Statistical comparisons were made using cluster analysis (Kohonen map and Ward's method). According to the used method, three to five homogeneous groups were separated. The most numerous group included 52 roe deer; however, the strongest relationship was observed in group created from infracommunities with high level of infection with *Haemonchus contortus* and *Ashworthius sidemi*. No influence of the particular environments on analyzed groups was observed.

The obtained results suggest that the parasitic nematode infracommunities observed in roe deer generally tend to be stable. On the other hand, intensive infections of some pathogenic and alien invasive species (i.e. *Haemonchus contortus* and *Ashworthius sidemi*) may disrupt this stability.

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