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Prevalence of hydatidosis in pigs in the Lublin province in the period 2001–2004

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ABSTRACT. The authors present the prevalence of echinococcosis (hydatidosis) invasion in pigs slaughtered in the Lublin province between 2001-2004. In these years it was 10.39% on average. The invasion range seems to decrease in 2003-2004.

Key words: *Echinococcus granulosus*, extent of invasion, pigs.

Introduction

Hydatidosis induced by the larvae of *Echinococcus granulosus*, in pigs causes great economic losses in the national economy. Due to the post slaughter losses connected with the disqualification of organs or their partial usefulness for consumption it constitutes quite a serious problem in meat processing in Poland. The analysis of the data of some authors [1–9] show that the risk of hydatidosis is the greatest in the provinces of Lublin, Białystok and Olsztyn.

This paper comprises the data about *Echinococcus granulosus* larvae occurrence in pigs slauthered in the Lublin province in 2001–2004.

Material and methods

The base for these studies were the annual reports on the official examinations of slaughtered pigs, obtained from the Veterinary Inspectorate in Lublin, as well as consultations with veterinary physicians from the Veterinary Health Inspection of meat plants, examining carcasses of slaughtered pigs.

Results and discussion

In the years 2001-2004 the incidence of hydatidosis in slaughtered pigs in the Lublin province amounted on average to 10.39%. Deryło et al. [3] demonstrated similar level of invasion (10.09%) in the Lublin province in the years 1993–2000. The data obtained from veterinary physicians reveal that hydatidosis in pigs was caused by *Echinococcus granulosus*.

The comparison of our data (presented in the Table 1) with the results obtained by other authors [7, 8] shows that the prevalence of hydatidosis in pigs is high in both the Lublin province and north-

Table 1. Prevalence of hydatidosis among pigs in the Lublin province in the years 2001-2004

Years	Number of examined animals	Number of infected animals	%
2001	805086	93144	11.56
2002	957849	104161	10.87
2003	1032866	98316	9.51
2004	930659	89789	9.64
Total	3726460	385410	in average 10.39

eastern Poland but higher that in the other regions of Poland.

The main incidence of *Echinococcus* larvae in pigs amounted in Poland to 5% in the period 1994-1997 whereas in the Lublin province and north-eastern Poland during the same period of time it exceeded 10% of slaughter [1, 2].

Nevertheless, the data enclosed at the Table 1 seem to show a slight decrease in the parasite`s invasion in the years 2003-2004 in Lublin province.

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