Polish Journal of Veterinary Sciences Vol. 13, No. 1 (2010), 171-174

Original article

The first description of gastric *Helicobacter* in free-ranging wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) from Poland

M. Fabisiak[1], R. Sapierzyński[1], A. Sałamaszyńska-Guz[2], M. Kizerwetter-Świda[2]

[1] Department of Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Warsaw University of Life Sciences (SGGW), Warsaw, Poland
[2] Department of Preclinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Warsaw University of Life Sciences (SGGW), Warsaw, Poland

Abstract

Specimens of gastric mucosa of 17 free-ranging wild boars (*Sus scrofa*) shot in the Central Poland during 2007/2008 hunting season were investigated for the presence of *Helicobacter* species. Histopathology, *Helicobacter* genus-specific 16S rRNA PCR, and DNA sequence analysis were employed. In PCR analysis the presence of *Helicobacter's* DNA was detected in one stomach. Obtained sequence analysis showed its relatedness to *Helicobacter heilmannii* type 2. In histopathology of the PCR-positive sample the presence of tightly coiled spiral bacteria was detected on the surface of the antral mucosa, in gastric pits and lumen of the upper parts of antral glands. Potential pathologic significance of the presence of *Helicobacter* in the stomach of free-ranging wild boars was obscured by the parasitic invasion-caused gastritis, and remains unknown.

Key words: wild boar, *Helicobacter*, gastric mucosa, PCR, histopathology