STUDIES ON ENTEROCOCCOSIS AMONG SOME MARINE FISHES IN LAKE TEMSAH, ISMAILIA

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In the present study, a total of 360 marine fishes of three different species (Sparus auratus, Siganus rivulatus, and Tilapia zillii) were randomly collected from Lake Temsah at Ismailia governorate from April 2011 to March 2012. The clinical picture of the diseased fishes was recorded. 21.25% of the total infected fishes were positive for Enterococcus fecalis. Tilapia zilli was the most infected spp (33.3%), followed by Sparus auratus (22.66%), while Siganus rivulatus showed the lowest infection (12.72%). These percentages were calculated according to the total number of infected fishes (n=160). The results indicated that the most susceptible organs for infection was kidneys (30.97%), followed by gills (28.86%), then liver (25.77%), while the lowest infection was recorded in spleen (14.43%). The highest prevalence of enterococcosis among the naturally infected marine fishes was recorded in the summer season (13.12%), followed by spring (5.6%), then autumn (2.5%), while winter revealed no infection. The histopathological studies of naturally infected marine fishes showed severe inflammatory reactions in different organs with leukocytic infiltration and necrosis.

Keywords: Marine fishes, Enterococcus fecalis, Lake Temsah, Seasonal prevalence.

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