

Sarcoptic mange infestation in pigs in a hilly region of Meghalaya

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Tropical Animal Health and Production, Vol. 42, Issue 5

Abstract

Skin lesions were collected from 15 adult crossbred pigs maintained at the pig farm of ICAR Research Complex for the North-Eastern Hill Region, Umiam, a hilly region of the state of Meghalaya, India. Skin scrapings of these 15 animals were examined by KOH digestion method. Presence of mites were detected in five animals which were indistinguishable from

Sarcoptes scabiei

 var.

suis

. Infected pigs were treated with a single dose of Ivermectin at 200 ug/kg body weight, subcutaneously. No mites were recovered from treated pigs after a period of 10 days of post-treatment. The presence of

S. scabiei

 var.

suis

 in pigs from this part of the country has never been reported. This infestation has great significance because it affects the growth rate and feed conversion significantly, specially to the grower and weaned pigs. It can be concluded that

S. scabiei

 var.

suis

 infestation is prevalent in hilly region of Meghalaya. The pig producers are generally unaware about the severity of the problem of mite infestation, so precaution should be taken to prevent their valuable pigs from

S. scabiei

 var.

suis

 infestation.

Keywords Ivermectin - Pig -

Sarcoptes scabiei

 var.

suis

Oui