PREVALENCE OF TRICHINELLA SP. IN LYNX (FELIS LYNX) FROM ALASKA, 1988-1993

RANDALL ZARNKE, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, USA
ALVIN GAJADHAR, Agriculture Canada, Health of Animals Laboratory, 116 Veterinary Road, Saskatoon, SK S7N 2R3, Canada
GREGORY TIFFIN, Agriculture Canada, Animal Disease Research Institute, P.O. Box 640, Lethbridge, AB T1J 3Z4, Canada
JAY VER HOEF, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701, USA

Abstract: Lynx (Felis lynx) tongue samples (N = 1,065) were collected from seven geographic areas of Alaska during 1988-1993. Specimens were examined for the presence of Trichinella sp. larvae by means of enzymatic digestion. Overall prevalence was 21%. Both prevalence and intensity (i.e., number of larvae per gram of host tissue) were directly related to age of the host. Age-specific prevalence ranged from 4% for kittens up to 59% for lynx 5 years of age and older. For infected lynx, intensity ranged from 0.27 larvae per gram (LPG) for kittens up to 2.35 LPG for lynx 3 years of age and older. Location-specific prevalence ranged from 19% to 27%. Year-specific prevalence ranged from 13% to 26%. Prevalence in both males and females was 21%.
8TH NORTHERN FURBEARER CONFERENCE

In Conjunction With

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
ALASKA CHAPTER OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY

“Tradition and Transition -- Moving into the 21st Century”

CONFERENCE PROGRAM
MAY 3-5, 1995
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA