INVESTIGATION OF ENDOPARASITE INFECTING WILD PROBOSCIS MONKEY (Nasalis larvatus) IN LOK KAWI WILDLIFE PARK

DAHLIA DAHALAN

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLDEGEMENT TABLE OF CONTENTS LIST OF TABLES LIST OF FIGURES LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS ABTRACT ABSTRAK				
СНА	PTER 1. INTRODUCTION			
1.1	1 Background Study			
1.2	Problem Statement	3		
1.3	Significance of the Study	4		
1.4	Objectives of the Study	5		
		36		
CHA				
2.1	Nasalis larvatus	6		
	2.1.1 Populations of Nasalis larvatus and habitat	7		
	2.1.2 Feeding ecology of Nasalis larvatus	8		
	2.1.3 Threats affecting Nasalis larvatus	10		
	2.1.4 Intestinal parasites transmission and as a threat	11		
	2.1.4.1 Protozoa as a threat	15		
	-2.1.4.2 Helminths as a threat	16		
	2.1.5 Conservation status	17		
CHA	APTER 3: METHODOLOGY			
3.1	Study sites	18		
3.2	Materials			
	3.2.1 Raw materials	19		
	3.2.2 Chemicals	19		
	3.3.3 Apparatus	19		

3.3 Methods

	INTOULO	145		
	3.3.1	Fieldwork		
		3.3.1.1	Sample collection	20
		3.3.1.2	Number of samples	20
		3.3.1.3	Weight of the samples	20
	3.3.2	3.3.2 Laboratory method		
		3.3.2.1	Direct smear technique	21
		3.3.2.2	Fecal floatation technique	21
		3.3.2.3	McMaster counting method	22
		3.3.2.4	Eggs per gram (E.P.G)	. 22
		3.3.2.5	Prevalence rate	23
CHA	PTER	4: RESULTS	S AND DISCUSSIONS	
4.1	1 Presence of endoparasites in the fecal sample			
1.2	Prevalence rate of endoparasites			
1.3	3 Fecal egg count			
		00		
CHA	PTER	5: CONCLU	ISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	34
CITED REFERENCES				
APPENDICES				
CURRICULUM VITAE				

ABSTRACT

INVESTIGATION OF ENDOPARASITES INFECTING CAPTIVE PROBOSCIS MONKEY (Nasalis larvatus) IN LOK KAWI WILDLIFE PARK

Nasalis larvatus are considered as endangered species and parasitic infection might affect the monkey overall health. High parasitic infection leads to the lowering of survival and reduce the fitness of the monkey itself. The aim of this study were to detect the presence of endoparasites and quantify the prevalence rate of the gastrointestinal parasites infecting the captive proboscis monkey in Lok Kawi wildlife Park. A total of 10 random fecal samples of captive proboscis monkey in Lok Kawi Wildlife Park were collected and brought back to Kompleks Sains dan Agroteknologi (KOMSAT) for examination. In the laboratory, the endoparasites were identified via direct smear and fecal flotation method. Prevalence rate and EPG were determined based on the two methods applied. The result shows that three groups of endoparasites present in the samples with nematode have the highest prevalence rate (80.00%), followed by protozoa (70.00%) and cestode (50.00%). One of the factors that cause the monkey to get infected is most probably due to contaminated food, water and environment.