



ELSEVIER

International Journal for Parasitology

Volume 15, Issue 2, April 1985, Pages 137-140



***In vitro* culture of the strobilar stage of *Echinococcus granulosus* from protoscoleces of human, camel, cattle, sheep and goat origin from Kenya and buffalo origin from India**

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Received 6 April 1984, Available online 11 November 2002.

[https://doi.org/10.1016/0020-7519\(85\)90078-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/0020-7519(85)90078-5) [Get rights and content](#)

Abstract

Protoscoleces from human, camel, cattle, sheep, goat (all from Kenya) and buffalo (from India) hydatid cysts were cultured under identical conditions *in vitro* using the diphasic culture system of Smyth (1979b). Organisms from all sources grew and segmented in culture. Genital anlagen developed in all cultured worms but further genital differentiation occurred only in cultures of cattle (testes) and camel (testes and genital pore) material. The possible significance of these results is discussed in relation to the general epidemiology of hydatid disease and the potential infectivity of the different strains to man.

Keywords

Echinococcus granulosus, buffalo, camel, cattle, sheep, horse, goat, man, strains, *in vitro* culture, infectivity, sexual differentiation, epidemiology, hydatid disease, hydatidosis, echinococcosis, Kenya, India