

PREVALENCE AND RISK FACTORS OF *Lynxacarus radovskyi* (ARACHNIDA: LISTROPHORIDAE) INFESTATION ON CATS IN AMPANG KUALA LUMPUR MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

WAJIHA BALQEESH BINTI ROZHAN ZAINOL. Prevalence and Risk Factors of *Lynxacarus radovskyi* (Arachnida: Listrophoridae) Infestation on Cats in Ampang Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. Supervised by SUSI SOVIANA and ARIFIN BUDIMAN NUGRAHA.

Ectoparasite infestation is a common health problem in cats and can lead to dermatological disorders, reduced welfare, and increased risk of pathogen transmission. This study aimed to determine the prevalence of ectoparasites and identify risk factors associated with *Lynxacarus radovskyi* (Arachnida: Listrophoridae) infestation on cats in Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. A total of 100 owned and free-roaming cats were examined. Hair samples were collected and ectoparasites were identified microscopically based on morphological characteristics. Secondary data were obtained from selected veterinary clinics in Ampang. Overall, 61% of cats were infested with at least one ectoparasite species, with *Ctenocephalides felis* being the most prevalent species. The prevalence of *L. radovskyi* infestation was 14%. Fisher's Exact Test revealed significant associations between *L. radovskyi* infestation and breed, age, body condition score, and housing system, whereas gender was not significantly associated. Indoor or semi-indoor housing showed the strongest association with infestation (OR = 51.3), followed by higher body condition score (OR = 11.1), purebred status (OR = 7.5), and older age (OR = 6.5). These findings suggest that host characteristics and management practices play important roles in the occurrence of *L. radovskyi* infestation and should be considered in ectoparasite prevention and control strategies.

Keywords: cats, ectoparasites, *Lynxacarus radovskyi*, prevalence, risk factors.



ABSTRAK

WAJIHA BALQEESH BINTI ROZHAN ZAINOL. Prevalensi dan Faktor Risiko Infestasi *Lynxacarus radovskyi* (Arachnida: Listrophoridae) pada Kucing di Ampang Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. Dibimbing oleh SUSI SOVIANA dan ARIFIN BUDIMAN NUGRAHA

Infestasi ektoparasit merupakan satu diantara masalah kesehatan yang umum terjadi pada kucing dan dapat menyebabkan gangguan dermatologis, menurunkan kesejahteraan hewan, serta meningkatkan risiko penularan patogen. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menentukan prevalensi ektoparasit dan mengidentifikasi faktor risiko yang berhubungan dengan infestasi *Lynxacarus radovskyi* (Arachnida: Listrophoridae) pada kucing di Ampang, Kuala Lumpur. Sebanyak 100 ekor kucing peliharaan dan kucing liar diperiksa dalam penelitian ini. Sampel rambut dikumpulkan dan ektoparasit diidentifikasi secara mikroskopis berdasarkan karakteristik morfologinya. Data sekunder juga diperoleh dari klinik hewan terpilih di Ampang. Secara keseluruhan, 61% kucing terinfestasi setidaknya satu spesies ektoparasit, dengan *Ctenocephalides felis* sebagai spesies yang paling dominan. Prevalensi infestasi *L. radovskyi* adalah sebesar 14%. Uji Fisher's Exact menunjukkan adanya hubungan yang signifikan antara infestasi *L. radovskyi* dengan ras, umur, skor kondisi tubuh, dan sistem pemeliharaan, sedangkan jenis kelamin tidak menunjukkan hubungan yang signifikan. Sistem pemeliharaan indoor atau semi-indoor menunjukkan hubungan terkuat dengan infestasi (OR = 51,3), diikuti oleh skor kondisi tubuh yang lebih tinggi (OR = 11,1), status ras murni (OR = 7,5), dan umur yang lebih tua (OR = 6,5). Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa karakteristik inang dan praktik pemeliharaan berperan penting dalam terjadinya infestasi *L. radovskyi* dan perlu dipertimbangkan dalam strategi pencegahan serta pengendalian ektoparasit.

Kata kunci: ektoparasit, faktor risiko, kucing, *Lynxacarus radovskyi*, prevalensi.



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CATS IN AMPANG KUALA LUMPUR MALAYSIA**

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**STUDY PROGRAM OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
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PREFACE

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May this work be beneficial to those in need and contribute to the advancement of scientific knowledge.

Bogor, July 2026

Wajiha Balqees Binti Rozhan Zainol

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