

# Effect of papaya latex against *Ascaris suum* in naturally infected pigs

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## Abstract

An experiment was carried out to investigate the anthelmintic activity of papaya latex (*Carica papaya*) against natural infection of *Ascaris suum* in pigs. Sixteen naturally infected pigs were, on the basis of faecal egg counts and body weight, allocated into four groups, each of four pigs. Three groups (groups B, C, and D) were given papaya latex per os at dose levels of 2, 4, and 8 g of papaya latex per kg body weight, respectively. The fourth group (group A) served as a non-treated control. Results of post mortem counts on day 7 post treatment revealed worm count reductions of 39.5, 80.1 and 100% in groups B, C, and D, respectively. Some of the pigs receiving the highest dose of the latex showed mild diarrhoea on the day following treatment. Otherwise, no clinical or pathological changes were observed in the treated animals. The possible future use of this traditional herbal medicine for livestock and humans is discussed.

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