

Molecular screening for *Rickettsia*, *Anaplasmataceae* and *Coxiella burnetii* in *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* ticks from Malaysia

ABSTRACT

A total of 44 *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* ticks collected from 23 dogs from Malaysia were screened for *Rickettsia*, *Anaplasmataceae* and *Coxiella burnetii*. *Coxiella burnetii* was detected in 59% (26/44) of ticks however *Rickettsia* and *Anaplasmataceae* were not detected in any of the ticks. In order to genotype the strains of *C. burnetii*, multispacer sequence typing (MST) was carried out using three different spacers. One of the spacers; Cox2 successfully amplified a fragment for which the full length sequence of 397 bp was obtained. The sequenced product revealed only a single nucleotide difference with the Cox2.3 type sequence.

Keyword: *Rhipicephalus*; *Rickettsia*; *Anaplasmataceae*; Nucleotide

