



Isolation and phenotypic characterization of *Streptococcus uberis* from mastitic cows in and around Batu town, Ethiopia.

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1 ABSTRACT

Streptococcus uberis have emerged to be pathogens causing intramammary infections in dairy herds. In Ethiopia, knowledge about the *Streptococcus uberis* (*S.uberis*) involved in mastitis is limited. A cross-sectional study was carried out in Batu East shoa Zone of Oromia State, Ethiopia from December 2014 to April 2015 with the aim of isolation and phenotypic characterization of *Streptococcus uberis* from bovine mastitis. A total of 230 lactating (Holstein (n=115), Borena (68) and Jersey (n=71)) cows were included in this study and out of those, 97 (42.2%) were found to be affected with mastitis infection which was detected by clinical examination and the California Mastitis Test (CMT), of which 16(7%) and 81(35.2%) had clinical and subclinical mastitis, respectively. Positive milk samples were used for bacteriological examination and a total of 18 isolate of *S. uberis* were obtained. In the present study out of seven *in vitro antimicrobial* used, Nalidixic acid (37.5%), Amoxicillin (25%), Streptomycin (25%), Oxytetracycline (25%), Kanamycin (18.75%), Ceftriaxone (18.75%), and Compound sulphonamide (12.5%) showed resistance to *S. uberis*. Among the potential risk factors considered, age, parity, stage of lactation, breed and floor type were found to affect the occurrence of *S. uberis* mastitis significantly (P<0.05). In this study, it is observed that *S. uberis* should be given a great concern as a threat for the dairy industries.
