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A survey on medicinal plants used by traditional healers in Harari regional State, Eastern Ethiopia

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This study was carried out to collect and document indigenous knowledge on medicinal plants in Harari regional state, East Ethiopia. The ethnobotanical data were collected from 24 traditional healers (14 male and 10 female) using semi-structured questionnaire, observation and guided field walks. The survey identified 54 medicinal plants distributed into34 families and 50 genera. The fabaceae family was the most dominant plant family recorded as sources of traditional medicines. The study revealed that 42 species (78%) were used against human ailments, 4 species (7%) were used to treat health problems of livestock and 8(15%) species were used to treat both human and livestock ailments. The plant parts most frequently used were the Leaf (48%), followed by root (24%), stem (11%), fruit (9) and whole parts (7). Traditional remedies were processed mainly through crushing, followed by squeezing. Oral applications were widely used, followed, in frequency of prescription, by dermal applications. The study showed that Harari area possess wealthy of indigenous knowledge on medicinal plants and their applications. Moreover, this ethnobotanical study can assist scientists for further research on medicinal properties of identified plants species that could contribute to development of new drugs.

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Enterococcus faecium probiotic effect on chicks experimentally infected by *Eimeria* species

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This study aimed to investigate the effect of a probiotic against experimentally coccidiosis in broilers using two protocols for prophylaxis and treatment. Two hundred and forty birds of one day old Ross chicks were divided into eight equal groups from one to eight. Two groups were controls; one without any treatment as control positive (group 8) and the other uninfected un treated as control negative (group 4). The remaining 6 groups were underwent of 2 programs for treatment; the groups were administered diclazuril alone, probiotic alone and a mixture of both of them before infection for ten days as a prophylaxis program. In the same time, the other 3 groups were administered diclazuril, probiotic and both of them at the day of clinical signs appearance for five days. A commercial probiotic containing *Enterococcus faecium* was used in this experiment. It applied via drinking water in inclusion rates 0,5gm/liter. Diclazuril was used as standard. Throughout the 42 days of experiment, body weight and feed intake were recorded every three days and also feed conversion ratios were calculated, in addition to oocysts count. Seven days after infection, the infected un treated control group showed the lowest weight gain values, while probiotics and diclazuril prophylaxis group had the highest weight gain values with the lowest oocyst shedding number. Probiotic containing groups had moderate lesion score values and moderate oocysts numbers in comparison with the groups contain diclazuril which recorded low values. In conclusion, a mixture of probiotic with diclazuril gave considerable improvement in growth performance and caecal health in comparison with infected un treated control birds. Fairly improvement achieved in probiotics only specially when used as prophylaxis that led to reduction in total oocyst shedding and reduce all negative impact but not prevent the infection at all by *Eimeria* species infection.