Abstract

Haematozoa is a group of protozoa parasitizing in mammals, birds and reptiles that are characterized by development in blood cells. Some representatives of the Haematozoa class may cause serious human illnesses and losses in livestock and domestic animals. In ungulates there are three genera of blood parasites - *Theileria*, *Babesia* and *Plasmodium*. This thesis is focused mainly on the genus *Plasmodium* in forest ungulates. The vectors of these parasites in ungulates are mosquitoes of the genus *Anopheles*. Until recently, the area of *Plasmodium* in ungulates only reached the Old World, where *P. cephalophi*, *P. bubalis* and *P. caprae* were described. These species have traditionally been described on the basis of their morphology under a light microscope. The discovery of molecular methods has allowed a more detailed description and discovery of a new species of *P. odocoilei* in cervids in North and South America. The paper summarizes the present information related to the occurrence of blood parasites in forest ungulates.

Key words: *Plasmodium*, *Babesia*, *Theileria*, ungulates