

BBD-PP-16**TITLE****HIGH FREQUENCY OF SWINE HEMOTROPHIC MYCOPLASMAS IN SOWS IN SOUTHERN BRAZIL**

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CONTENT

Background and objective: *Mycoplasma suis* and *Mycoplasma parvum* are the two hemotrophic mycoplasmas species described in pigs. Therefore, the present study aimed to investigate the prevalence of *M. suis* in sows in southern Brazil. **Material & Methods:** In total, 429 whole blood samples were sampled from 53 different herds in Santa Catarina State. DNA extraction was performed from whole blood samples using a manufactured protocol. DNA samples were submitted to a quantitative real-time (q)PCR for *M. suis* based on 16S rRNA gene. DNA samples exhibiting positive results in qPCR for the 16S rRNA gene were submitted to cPCR for *M. suis* based on 16S rRNA gene targeting two fragments (~800bp each fragment). Amplified products were purified and sequenced using the Sanger method. **Results:** Briefly, *M. suis* was detected in 79.72% of the samples and all herds were positive. Three amplicons were selected by sequencing. The identity ranged from 99 to 100% with *M. suis* and *M. parvum* by BLASTn. **Discussion & Conclusion:** The prevalence of *M. suis* in Brazil raised in the last 10 years. Regarding our results, it is possible that most of the tested animals were chronic carriers of the agent, and may act as sources of infection for arthropod vectors, as well as fomites. In conclusion, the prevalence of *M. suis* is high in sow herds in southern Brazil, and this is the first molecular detection of coinfection with *M. suis* and *M. parvum* in Brazil.