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Original article

The use of serological tests in combination with the intradermal tuberculin test maximizes the detection of tuberculosis infected goats

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Highlights

- In vivo diagnosis of tuberculosis in goats is mainly based on intradermal tuberculin tests.
- Other tests are evaluated in order to find tools to improve diagnosis of tuberculosis in goats.
- Serological tests in combination with intradermal tests can maximize sensitivity.
- Use of sera taken after PPD injection increase the sensitivity of serological tests.

Abstract

The diagnosis of tuberculosis (TB) in goats is based mainly on the single and comparative intradermal tuberculin (SIT and CIT) tests and, exceptionally, on the interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) assay, however they are not perfect in terms of sensitivity and specificity. Nevertheless, various serological assays that provide a potential cost-effective approach for the control of TB are also available or under development, and a variety of results have been reported regarding the ability of these tests to detect infected animals, particularly in the early stages of infection. In the present study, SIT/CIT and IFN- γ tests and three different serological assays were evaluated during two consecutive herd testing

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