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First report on the occurrence of intestinal *Entamoeba* spp. in pigs in China

Wen-Chao Li¹, Jin-zhu Geng¹, Cheng Chen¹, Lei Qian¹, Tao Zhang¹, Jun-long Liu², Jian-xun Luo², You-fang Gu^{1*}

¹College of Animal Science, Anhui Science and Technology University, Fengyang 233100, China.

²State Key Laboratory of Veterinary Etiological Biology, Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Lanzhou 730046, China.

* Corresponding author. address: No. 9 Road Donghua, Fengyang.

Tel.: +86-431-6732357.

Fax: +86-431-6732040.

E-mail: youfanggu@163.com.

Highlights

- This is the first investigation for *Entamoeba* spp in pig in China.
- The *E. suis*, and two zoonotic *E. polecki* subtypes(ST1 and ST3) were observed in pig in Anhui province of China.
- The study provide the feasible molecular tools for the identification of species/subtypes of porcine *Entamoeba* spp.

ABSTRACT

Three *Entamoeba* spp. including *E. suis*, zoonotic *E. polecki*, and *E. histolytica*, have been described in pigs to date. However, little is known about the molecular epidemiology of these neglected parasites in pigs globally. In this study we surveyed the occurrence and molecular epidemiology of porcine *Entamoeba* spp. in pigs in eastern China and evaluated their zoonotic potential. Five hundred fresh fecal samples, collected from seven pig farms in Anhui province, eastern China, were examined for the presence of *E. histolytica*, *E. suis*, and *E. polecki* ST1 and

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