Abstract

Several serotypes of enteric Salmonella are among of the most important zoonotic food-borne pathogens worldwide. Foods of animal origin, especially poultry and poultry products, are one of the major vehicles of transmission for human Salmonellosis. The objective of the present manuscript was to report several serotypes of Salmonella of zoonotic importance isolated from poultry chicken slaughtered in two large processing plants in Zulia state, Venezuela. These samples were processed using the protocols for isolation and identification of Salmonella spp standardized by the Ohio Department of Agriculture, USA. Salmonellas were recovered from 77 (23%) of 332 total samples collected from both plants over a 5 month period. All the isolates were serotyped at the National Institute of Health “Rafael Range” (Caracas, Venezuela). Five different serotypes were detected: S. parathyphi B (62%), S. heidelberg (31%), S. amager (3%), S. javiana (3%) y S. idikan (1%). Ninetythree percent (72/77) of the isolates were either S. paratphy-B or S. heidelberg, which are reported in the literature as pathogenic Salmonellas for humans with invasive properties and capable to produce extra intestinal infections and septicemia. There are not previous reports in Zulia state about the isolation of these potentially zoonotic Salmonella serotypes in poultry; therefore the aim of this work is to alert others of the risk that these serotypes represent for the public health of this region.

Keywords

Salmonella, zoonoses, broilers, public health, S. paratphy-B, S. heidelberg