



HAL
open science

Editorial: Tick-borne viruses of domestic livestock: Epidemiology, evolutionary trends, biology and climate change impact

Daniel Oluwayelu, Sara Moutailler, Solomon Odemuyiwa

► To cite this version:

Daniel Oluwayelu, Sara Moutailler, Solomon Odemuyiwa. Editorial: Tick-borne viruses of domestic livestock: Epidemiology, evolutionary trends, biology and climate change impact. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, 2023, 10, pp.1147770. 10.3389/fvets.2023.1147770 . anses-04065160

HAL Id: anses-04065160

<https://anses.hal.science/anses-04065160>

Submitted on 10 Aug 2023

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.



Distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License



OPEN ACCESS

EDITED AND REVIEWED BY
Andres M. Perez,
University of Minnesota Twin Cities,
United States

*CORRESPONDENCE
Daniel O. Oluwayelu
✉ do.oluwayelu@ui.edu.ng;
✉ ogloryus@yahoo.com

SPECIALTY SECTION
This article was submitted to
Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics,
a section of the journal
Frontiers in Veterinary Science

RECEIVED 19 January 2023
ACCEPTED 08 March 2023
PUBLISHED 21 March 2023

CITATION
Oluwayelu DO, Moutailler S and
Odemuyiwa SO (2023) Editorial: Tick-borne
viruses of domestic livestock: Epidemiology,
evolutionary trends, biology and climate
change impact. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 10:1147770.
doi: 10.3389/fvets.2023.1147770

COPYRIGHT
© 2023 Oluwayelu, Moutailler and Odemuyiwa.
This is an open-access article distributed under
the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution
License \(CC BY\)](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). The use, distribution or
reproduction in other forums is permitted,
provided the original author(s) and the
copyright owner(s) are credited and that the
original publication in this journal is cited, in
accordance with accepted academic practice.
No use, distribution or reproduction is
permitted which does not comply with these
terms.

Editorial: Tick-borne viruses of domestic livestock: Epidemiology, evolutionary trends, biology and climate change impact

Daniel O. Oluwayelu^{1,2*}, Sara Moutailler³ and
Solomon O. Odemuyiwa⁴

¹Department of Veterinary Microbiology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria, ²Centre for Control and Prevention of Zoonoses (CCPZ), University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria, ³ANSES, INRAE, Ecole Nationale Vétérinaire d'Alfort, UMR BIPAR, Laboratoire de Santé Animale, Maisons-Alfort, France, ⁴Department of Veterinary Pathobiology, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, United States

KEYWORDS

arboviruses, ticks, livestock, epidemiology, climate change

Editorial on the Research Topic

Tick-borne viruses of domestic livestock: Epidemiology, evolutionary trends, biology and climate change impact

Tick-borne viral diseases (TBVDs) of domestic livestock pose severe threats to global food security, economies of nations and public health due to their negative consequences on farmers' incomes as well as human and animal health (1, 2). Adequate knowledge of the epidemiology of these diseases, and the adaptation mechanisms of ticks and the viruses they transmit to domestic animals coupled with the effect of climate change on incidence and geographical spread of the diseases is key to achieving universal food security and health (3, 4). Our Research Topic is focused on showcasing high-quality publications on TBVDs that have considerable impact on the health of domestic livestock and humans with a focus on viral emergence and tick-human interactions.

The increasing incidence and geographical distribution of tick-borne viruses underscore the animal and public health importance of these arboviruses, especially with the rapidly changing global climatic conditions. In a study conducted in Romania, one of the most biogeographically diverse countries in Europe with conducive environment for the establishment of tick-borne virus foci (5), [Bratuleanu et al.](#) reported the detection of novel viral sequences in *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* ticks collected from small ruminants. These novel viruses belonged to the *Phenuiviridae* (Brown dog tick phlebovirus 1 and Brown dog tick phlebovirus 2) and *Chuviridae* (Cataloi mivirus) families. Surprisingly, sequences from a novel quaranjavirus-like virus, tentatively called Cataloi tick virus, were also identified in these hard ticks. The authors concluded that the discovery and characterization of tick-transmitted viruses would have consequences for virus taxonomy and provide better understanding of tick-borne viral zoonoses.

The re-emergence and unceasing spread of recognized TBVDs such as Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus (CCHFV) positively correlate with the rising cases of TBVDs in humans and animals ([Qin et al.](#)). However, the emergence of some unknown TBVDs pathogens and the lack of data on tick virome underscores a crucial need for active

viral surveillance and discovery in ticks, thereby promoting knowledge on the biodiversity and evolution of tick-transmitted viruses (Qin et al.). To gain better understanding of the spectrum of viruses borne by ticks and detect the likely viral pathogens, profiling of viruses in ticks is necessary. Using metagenomics sequencing, Qin et al. characterized the virome in three major tick species (*Haemaphysalis concinna*, *Dermacentor silvarum*, and *Ixodes persulcatus*) associated with pathogens in North China. They identified 28 RNA viruses belonging to more than 12 viral families of which *Dermacentor pestivirus*-like virus, Chimay-like rhabdovirus, taiga tick nigecevirus, and Mukawa virus were recognized as novel viruses. Additionally, they detected Nuomin virus, Scapularis ixovirus, Sara tick-borne phlebovirus, Tacheng uukuvirus, and Beiji orthonairovirus which are already recognized as human pathogens with unknown geographical distribution and pathogenicity.

Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus is maintained in nature *via* ticks and animals. Ticks, mainly from the *Hyalomma* genus, are considered biological vectors and reservoirs of the virus (6). This virus causes hemorrhagic fevers in humans while it is asymptomatic in animals (7). Despite this, animals are the source of infection for ticks and can be the source of human infection *via* contaminated body fluids (8). The disease is considered emerging in Europe and the Mediterranean Basin with recurrent epidemics in some countries (as in Turkey), and an increase in the number of human cases in others (as in Spain and Greece) (9, 10). In France (mainland and Corsica), where the tick *Hyalomma marginatum* is present, seroprevalence studies have shown the presence of anti-CCHFV antibodies in animals (11, 12), suggesting that CCHFV could be spreading silently (indeed no human cases reported). Bernard et al. in their review (based on the analysis of 1,035 articles), studied the epidemiology of CCHF at the tick-domestic livestock-ecosystem interface in France and identified different factors that could explain the prevailing situation.

Contrary to its current epidemiology in Europe, CCHF is an endemic disease in the Arab world, a term that describes a large geographically heterogeneous area that covers the northern part of Africa and extends to the Levant. In their systematic review, Perveen and Khan examined the epidemiology of CCHF in the Arab world from 1978 to 2021. Although the review documented widespread infection of several animal species as evidenced by serological assays, CCHF was most frequently only recognized following fatal human infections. Like Europe, *Hyalomma* ticks appeared to be the most common vector of CCHF in the Arab

world; however, the role of *Rhipicephalus* species has not been extensively investigated. Most importantly, a consensus of all the 57 studies examined is that CCHF is an occupational hazard among workers in the livestock processing industry. The review highlighted the need for a more focused surveillance activity to describe the epidemiology of CCHF in the Arab world. This call is apt at a time when many tick vectors are rapidly expanding their geographic ranges due to changes in global climatic conditions. Otherwise, an endemic viral infection in the Arab world could soon become an epidemic in Europe and the rest of the world.

The results of these studies and reviews not only provide new relevant information on the extensive diversity of RNA viruses in ticks, but they also offer a basis for further studies on the interactions among domestic livestock, ticks and tick-borne viruses. Besides, they provide better awareness of tick-borne viruses and the possible threat they constitute to ruminants and humans. They are also valuable for preventing possible outbreaks of TBVDs of livestock through vector control. Additional studies to elucidate the geographical distribution, infectivity, and pathogenicity of these tick-borne viruses are required.

Author contributions

DO wrote the introduction and conclusion, while all authors contributed to the central sections with comments to the cited papers and references. All authors read and approved the submitted version.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

Publisher's note

All claims expressed in this article are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of their affiliated organizations, or those of the publisher, the editors and the reviewers. Any product that may be evaluated in this article, or claim that may be made by its manufacturer, is not guaranteed or endorsed by the publisher.

References

- Meng F, Ding M, Tan Z, Zhao Z, Xu L, Wu J, et al. Virome analysis of tick-borne viruses in Heilongjiang Province, China. *Ticks Tick-borne Dis.* (2018) 10:412–20. doi: 10.1016/j.ttbdis.2018.12.002
- Jia W, Chen S, Chi S, He Y, Ren L, Wang X. Recent progress on tick-borne animal diseases of veterinary and public health significance in China. *Viruses.* (2022) 14:355. doi: 10.3390/v14020355
- Gray JS, Dautel H, Estrada-Peña A, Kahl O, Lindgren E. Effects of climate change on ticks and tick-borne diseases in Europe. *Interdiscip Perspect Infect Dis.* (2009) 2009:593232. doi: 10.1155/2009/593232
- Leal Filho W, Ternova L, Parasnis SA, Kovaleva M, Nagy GJ. Climate change and zoonoses: a review of concepts, definitions, and bibliometrics. *Int J Environ Res Public Health.* (2022) 19:893. doi: 10.3390/ijerph19020893
- Hanganu J, Dubyna D, Zhmud E, Grigoras I, Menke U, Drost H, et al. *Vegetation of the Biosphere Reserve "Danube Delta"*. Tulcea: Danube Delta National Institute (2002).
- Gargili A, Estrada-Peña A, Spengler JR, Lukashov A, Nuttall PA, Bente DA. The role of ticks in the maintenance and transmission of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus: a review of published field and laboratory studies. *Antiviral Res.* (2017) 144:93–119. doi: 10.1016/j.antiviral.2017.05.010

7. Öncü S. Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever: an overview. *Virologica Sinica*. (2013) 28:193–201. doi: 10.1007/s12250-013-3327-4
8. Spengler JR, Estrada-Peña A. Host preferences support the prominent role of Hyalomma ticks in the ecology of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. (2018) 12:e0006248. doi: 10.1371/journal.pntd.0006248
9. Stavropoulou E, Troillet N. Fièvre hémorragique de Crimée-Congo: une maladie virale émergente en Europe. *Rev Med Suisse*. (2018) 14:1786–9. doi: 10.53738/REVMED.2018.14.622.1786
10. Papa A, Sidira P, Larichev V, Gavrilova L, Kuzmina K, Mousavi-Jazi M, et al. Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus, Greece. *Emerg Infect Dis*. (2014) 20:288–90. doi: 10.3201/eid2002.130690
11. Grech-Angelini S, Stachurski F, Lancelot R, Boissier J, Allienne J-F, Marco S, et al. Ticks (Acari: Ixodidae) infesting cattle and some other domestic and wild hosts on the French Mediterranean island of Corsica. *Parasit Vectors*. (2016) 9:582. doi: 10.1186/s13071-016-1876-8
12. Grech-Angelini S, Lancelot R, Ferraris O, Peyrefitte CN, Vachery N, Pédarrieu A, et al. Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus antibodies among livestock on Corsica, France, 2014–2016. *Emerg Infect Dis*. (2020) 26:1041–4. doi: 10.3201/10.3201/eid2605.191465