

Coccidian Parasites (Eucoccidia: Eimeriidae) in European Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus* L., 1766) (Rodentia: Sciuridae) from Bulgaria

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Abstract: Three eucoccidian parasites from the genus *Eimeria* were observed in the European ground squirrel *Spermophilus citellus* from Bulgaria: *E. citelli* KARTCHNER & BECKER, 1930, *E. callospermophilli* HENRY, 1932, and *E. cynomysis* ANDREWS, 1928. Data on their morphology and prevalence in the infected animals are given. *E. citelli* and *E. callospermophilli* were observed in great number in tree sub-adult animals and the authors considered that the coccidiosis was one of the limiting factors for the population density of *S. citellus* in Bulgaria.

Key words: Coccidia, *Eimeria*, *Spermophilus citellus*, morphology, prevalence