

A-3. Recent advances in disease control by natural products in animals and birds in Bangladesh. (Abstracts of the International Symposium on Recent Advances in Animal Science (IS-RAAS), Joint meeting of 2nd IS-AS and 3rd IS-IFS)

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A-3. Recent advances in disease control by natural products in animals and birds in Bangladesh.

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Use of herbs for curing diseases is well documented in the history of all civilizations. Because of the increasing report of the possible hazards in using synthetic products in animals, natural products are rapidly establishing their credibility. At least 60 different varieties of plants, herbs and shrubs grown in Bangladesh have recognized medicinal properties, and are being used by Village Doctors like Hekims and Quacks for treating diseases in man and animals. A number of natural products are commercially available in Bangladesh most of which are used as feed additives though a few for treatment of clinical disease. Recent studies revealed that ethanol extract of Ata (*Annona reticulata*) at 2% concentration as spray showed highest efficacy (100%) followed by aqueous extract of Bishkatali (*Polygonum hydropiper*) against *Boophilus microplus*. Ethanol extracts of Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) was highly effective against common stomach worm *Haemonchus contortus* in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies. Bitter gourd (*Momordica charantia*) has been found very effective against chicken coccidiosis, and the birds receiving bitter gourd powder with feed had almost a similar weight gain compared with the uninfected control chicks, and both these groups of chicks gained significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) weight compared with chicks receiving sulphaclozine sodium. Anticipating the bright prospect, our research is now targeted mostly on the use of different plants against different parasitic infections in animals and birds. This presentation will cover the details of the currently used natural products in Bangladesh and our efforts in revealing the greatness of these natural products.