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ACARINE INFESTATION AMONG DOMESTIC BIRDS IN FAYOUM GOVERNORATE, EGYPT

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Poultry and their manufactured products constitute a valuable source of palatable protein food. External parasites of poultry particularly of Acarine species have great health and economic impacts on the poultry population and consequently their industry. Al Fayoum is one of the governorates in Egypt which is famous for raising birds at farms and households. In the present study, an examination of 1384 domestic birds of different species from Fayoum governorate, Egypt during 2016/2017 was conducted in order to identify the isolated Acarine species and investigate the rate of infestation among the examined bird species. Results revealed that 714 birds (51.59%) were infested with six Acarine

species. *Argas persicus* recorded the highest rate of infestation (25.91%) and was isolated from *Balady* chickens, ducks and turkeys. *Megninia columbae* and *Falculifer rostratus* were isolated from pigeon, *Balady* chickens and turkeys with a rate of (12.52%) and (9.45%), respectively. In addition, *Cnemidocoptes mutans* and *Ornithonyssus sylviarum* were found to infest *Balady* chickens and turkeys (5.76% and 2.00%, respectively). The study concluded that bad hygiene measures are the main causative factors of spreading of the detected external parasitic agents.

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