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## Venereal transmission of *Toxoplasma gondii* in goats after a buck was experimentally infected

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The aim of the present study was to assess the venereal transmission of *Toxoplasma gondii* in goats. Two bucks of reproductive age were used. One of them was infected orally with oocysts of *T. gondii*, whereas the other buck was not infected (control). Ten does were randomly allocated into two groups (G1 and G2), each with five animals. The does in G1 were mated with the buck that had been experimentally infected with *T. gondii* oocysts. Those in G2 (control) were mated with the serologically negative buck. Infection of the buck and does from G1 was confirmed based on clinical, serological, molecular and histopathological findings. The buck in G2 and all of the females that mated with him were negative in all tests. With regard to gestational development among the females in G1, the following results were recorded: Embryonic re-absorption occurred in one animal on day 34 after mating; one animal aborted on day 42 after mating; the three other females gave birth to full-term healthy kids. One of these kids exhibited PCR-positive blood at birth. In total, 40% of the does in G1 and 80% of the kids born alive in G1 were PCR-positive in at least one organ. The present study demonstrated that venereal transmission of *T. gondii* occurs in goats with vertical transmission occurring from does mated with an infected buck to their kids.

### Biography

Flaviana Santos Wanderley has graduated in Veterinary Medicine from the Federal University of Campina Grande, specialization from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Masters in Development and Environment, Federal University of Alagoas and a PhD in Animal Bioscience the Federal Rural University of Pernambuco. She is currently Medical and Veterinary Professor at the State University of Health Sciences of Alagoas (UNCISAL). She has experience in the area of Parasitology with emphasis on protozooses.

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