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Outbreak of human Trichinellosis in Spain, 2019

Abstract:

An outbreak of trichinellosis was detected during February 2019 in Retuerta del Bullaque, small village of Ciudad Real province (Castilla La Mancha, autonomous region of Spain). There were eighteen people infested by *Trichinella spiralis*, which was present in cured ham, chorizo and salami homemade produced from a non veterinary controlled domestic pork slaughter. Food samples were morphologic and molecularly tested in our laboratory. The infested food was withdrawn by the competent authorities

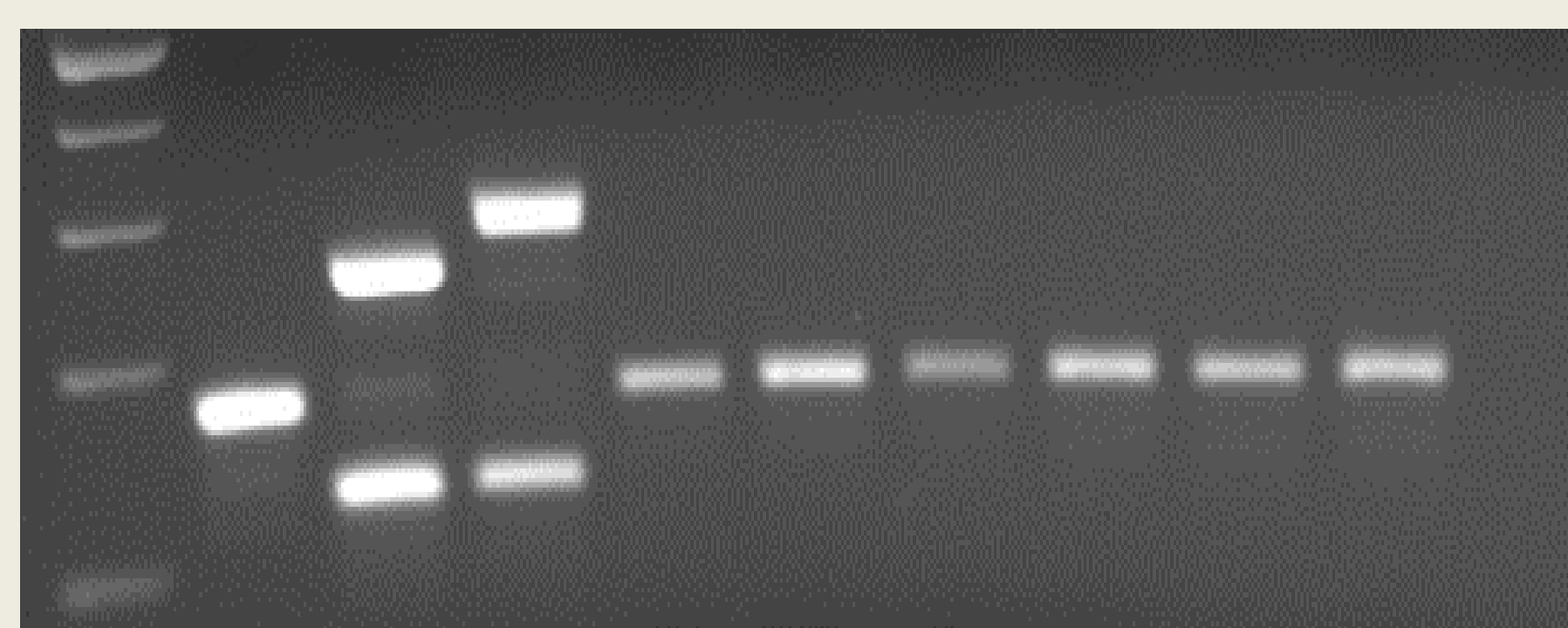
Responsible food



Parasitic load:
 Cured ham: 91,5 L/g
 Chorizo: 160 L/g
 Salami: 281 L/g

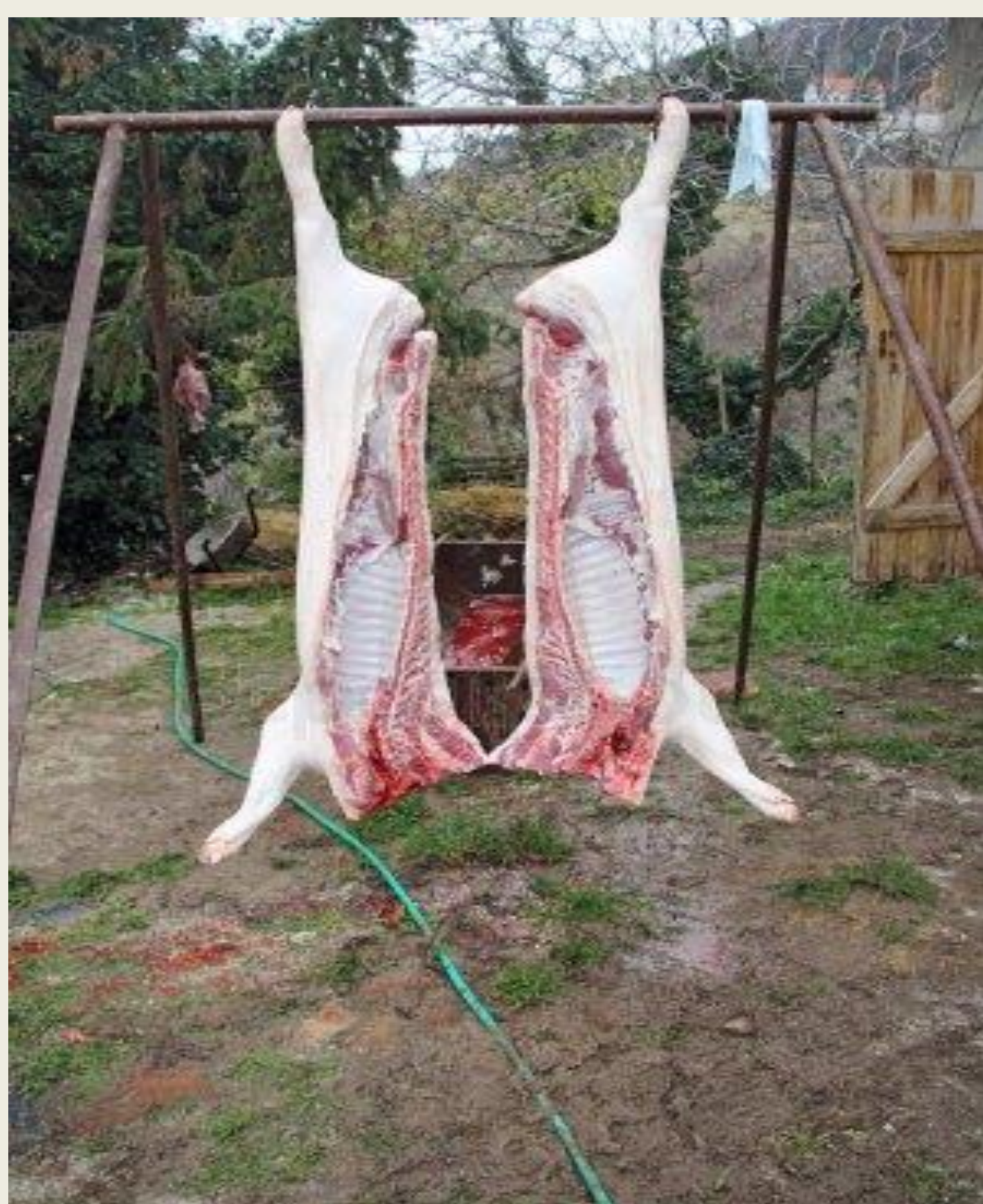
Magnetic stirred method

Multiplex PCR: *Trichinella spiralis*



Epidemiological criteria: consumption of food contaminated with the parasite
Clinical criteria: at least one of these clinical symptoms: diarrhea, fever, myalgia or periorbital edema and at least one of these serological data: eosinophilia, CPK, LDH or transaminases rise

According to this criteria the 18 affected people were positive to *Trichinella* spp., 3 of them required hospital treatment and their serum analysis was *Trichinella* Ig G positive by IFI



Una manzana clandestina causa el mayor brote español de triquinosis en siete años
 El sacrificio de un cerdo sin control veterinario en un pueblo de Ciudad Real deja 17 infectados en la provincia y Madrid. El caso refleja el laxo cumplimiento de la norma

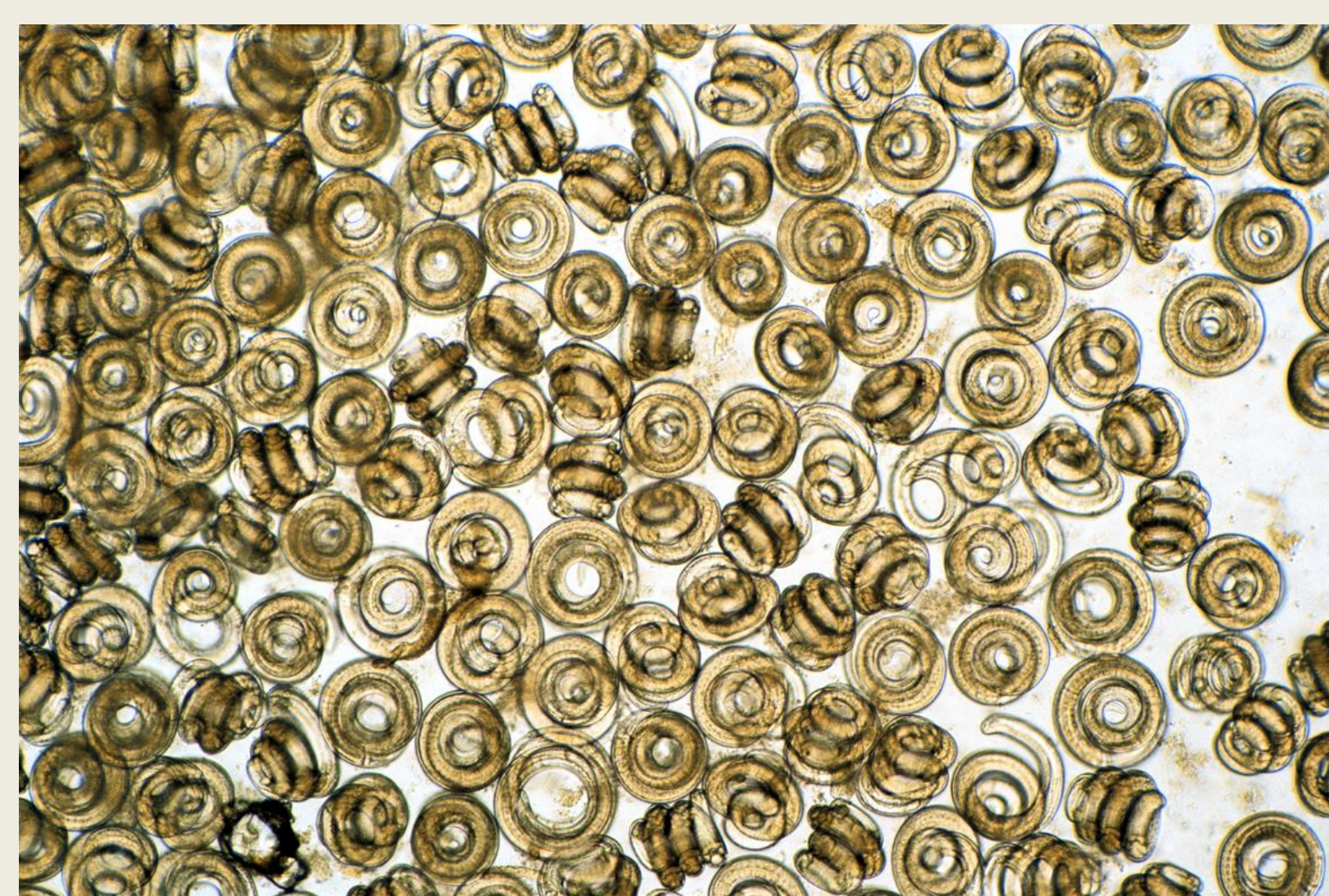
Un parásito que se reproduce en el intestino delgado
 Aunque puede infectar a más de un centenar de especies, la triquinosis es para el ser humano una enfermedad prácticamente desconocida. El agente causante de la triquinosis es un nematodo que se reproduce en el intestino delgado del cerdo.

LUIS ALBERTO GARCÍA ALÍA
 Vicepresidente del Consejo General de Veterinarios
"No vale la pena correr el riesgo para ahorrarse unos euros"

En Castilla-La Mancha, por ejemplo, la muerte del animal debe producirse en un matadero. El alcalde de Retuerta del Bullaque, el socialista Miguel Ángel Vela, admite a EL PAÍS que la normativa no se cumple en el municipio, de apenas 1.000 habitantes y sin matadero propio.



Great media diffusion



Conclusion: this was the higher *Trichinella* outbreak in the last seven years in Spain but no the worst because in 2011 a person died due to a *Trichinella* outbreak

Domestic pork slaughter is allowed in Spain, but it is **mandatory** to have permission from the local municipalities and ask for sanitary inspection. It is also **mandatory** the pork stunning before slaughtering, so as to comply with animal welfare requirements according to the EC Regulation