

Letter to the Editor

**DETECTION OF *Anaplasma marginale* AND *Babesia bovis* BY nPCR IN
BUFFALOS FROM THE WESTERN REGION OF CUBA**

Dear Editor:

Anaplasma marginale and *Babesia bovis* are the main haemoparasites affecting cattle in Cuba and have caused great economic losses.

The bubaline species, recently introduced in the country, is also susceptible to the infection with haemoparasites; though it shows a higher natural resistance and difficulty increases the disease in its clinical form. The animals infected act as natural reservoirs of these agents.

The detection of *A. marginale* and *B. bovis* in buffalos in farms from the western region of Cuba was carried out by two nPCR assays; amplifying a 345 pb band of the gene *msp5* for *A. marginale*, and a 291 pb band of the gene *rap1* for *B. bovis*.

It has been demonstrated that buffalos from the western region of Cuba are infected by *A. marginale* and *B. bovis*, being the first finding regarding these infections in the country for this animal species.

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