

Eimeria detection methods in field mice

Summary of hierarchical approach for infection status and species assignment

Detection Method ¹	Variable Name	Purpose	Priority	Sample Size (n/total)	Success Rate
Caecal qPCR + melting curve	MC.Eimeria	Infection detection (presence/absence)	Primary	185/336	55.1%
Caecal qPCR + melting curve	eimeriaSpecies	Species identification	Primary	169/336	50.3%
Amplicon sequencing ²	amplicon_species	Backup species identification	Backup	134/336	39.9%

¹ Primary method: Caecal tissue qPCR with melting curve analysis for both detection and species ID

² Backup method: Used only when qPCR species identification failed