**CHAPTER – I**

**BACKGROUND**

The term Myiasis was first given by Hope ([1840](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3427689/#CR3)) to refer human disease, beings originating specifically with dipterous larvae.

**Myiasis** is the [parasitic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parasitic) infestation of the body of a live [mammal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) by [fly](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fly) [larvae](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larva) ([maggots](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maggot)) that grow inside the host while feeding on its [tissue](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biological_tissue). Zumpt ([1965](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3427689/#CR9)) defined Myiasis as “the infestation of live vertebrate animals with dipterous larvae, which at least for a certain period, feed on host’s dead or living tissues, liquid body substances, or ingested food”.

Cattle and goat population may be infected by many infectious and parasitic diseases, myiasis is one of them. The most frequent host for myiasis are cattle and goat (46.4%) followed by dogs (15.3%), humans (14.7%), pigs (6%), horses (4%) and sheep (1%) (Sergio *et al.*, 2007).

Myiasis may cause annoyance to animals and disruption of normal habits including feeding and resting. The condition may cause loss of milk, meat and wool production. Myiasis also affects the quality of hides (McKelvie *et al*., 1993). Myiasis may affect livestock production causing abortion, reduced milk production, losses in weight and fertility, poor hide quality and an impairment of the host's immune system (Otranto *et al.*, 2004).

Ruminants frequently sustain different types of wounds and it appears from clinical impression that a good percentage of these wounds are complicated with maggot infestation. This problem in cattle and goat is fairly common in the field condition particularly in the season of fly prevalence (James, 1947).

Diagnosis is made on the basis of wound history, close examination of wound, characteristic odor, brownish exudation from the wound and demonstration of maggots.

At first the affected area is clipped and shaved. Then the maggots from the wound are removed by using sterile forceps. Then as fly repellent turpentine oil is used generally. After that an antibiotic course were applied for five days.

**The objectives of this study were:**

1) To estimate proportionate prevalence of myiasis in cattle and goats.

2) To know the distribution of myiasis according to the selected factors.

3) To know the frequency distribution of affected regions of myiasis in cattle and

goats.

4) To know antimicrobial drug used against myiasis in cattle and goats.