

SUMMARY

In this article a parallelism between the vampire bats and parasites was discussed. Taking into account the different definitions of parasitism and the morphological and behavioural adaptations observed in the vampire bats as well as transmission of diseases, the authors consider such mammals as true parasites and their study should be included in textbooks and in the discipline of Veterinary Parasitology.

KEY WORDS: Vampire bats, morphology, behaviour, disease transmission, parasitism.