



**Dr. Sonia Almeria**  
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Dr. Almeria received her Veterinary and Doctoral degrees at the University of Zaragoza, Spain. For her PhD, she worked on the epidemiology and control of gastrointestinal nematodes in cattle and was awarded with the 1st Iberian Award “Miguel Cordero del Campillo” as the best thesis on Veterinary Parasitology in Spain and Portugal in the 1991-1994 period. She completed a 3 year-postdoc at the Animal Parasitic Diseases Laboratory, ARS, USDA, in Beltsville MD studying immunology and control of gastrointestinal nematodes in cattle. She returned to Spain to become Associate Professor of Parasitology at the Veterinary School of Autonomous University of Barcelona, Associate Researcher at the Center for Animal Research (CRESA), and a member of the European Veterinary Parasitologist College (EVPC). Her studies focused on protozoal parasites such as Cyclospora, Babesia, Theileria, Toxoplasma and Neospora. She has mentored undergraduate, master, and Ph.D. students in Parasitology. Currently, Dr Almeria is Research Microbiologist on the Parasitology Group in the Division of Food and Environmental Microbiology in the Office of Applied Research and Safety Assessment (OARSA), FDA working on the molecular detection and characterization of the foodborne parasite *Cyclospora cayetanensis* in fresh produce. She is author and coauthor of more than 100 peer-reviewed publications in international scientific journals and serves on the editorial board of *Research in Veterinary Science*.