Coatis (Nasua nasua) are able to adapt to different environments, including urban forests, and move between urbanized areas and native forests. This large distribution has led to an increase in their population within anthropic areas, which can subsequently facilitate the transmission of biological agents to domestic animals and human beings. In coatis, a variety of ticks vectors of pathogens, have been reported, including Amblyomma cajennense and A. ovale. With the objective of identifying the presence of Ehrlichia spp., Anaplasma spp. and Babesia spp., 55 blood samples of coati’s free living were collected by jugular venipuncture. The animals were captured in Tomahawk-style traps with authorization (no. 29430-1) by the Department of the Environment, and were sedated using a combination of tiletamine and zolazepam (Zoletil®) according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. DNA was extracted the blood e analyzed by PCR using primers ECC/ECB for Ehrlichia spp., ANA F/ANA R for Anaplasma spp. and KB 16/KB 17 for Babesia spp.. Of the 55 samples analyzed 6 were positives to Ehrlichia spp., 18 to Anaplasma spp. and 2 were positive for Babesia spp. These samples will be processed using specific primers and positive samples will be sequenced, however, these initial results serve as a warning to importance of these animals as reservoirs and amplifiers of pathogens of importance in Veterinary Medicine and Public Health.

Palavras-chave: Nasua nasua; tick borne diseases; ticks; wildlife animals.

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