on these preparations and examined under microscope.

Formalin-Ether Concentration technique (Ritchie, 1948) was also followed to concentrate cysts and eggs and was based on the experience gained through out studies and others (Biswas, et al., 1971, Biswas, et al., 1973 and Prakash, et al., 1969) which have proved that this technique is the best to detect intestinal parasites.

The formalinized specimen was thoroughly stirred. Depending on the size and density of the specimen, a sufficient quantity of the sample was strained through a double gauze into a 15 ml. pointed centrifuge tube to give a sediment of 1 ml. The tube was then centrifused at 1,500 r.p.m. for 2 minutes. Supernatant was discarded. A 10 ml. of 10 per cent formalin was added to the sediment and mixed thoroughly. A quantity of 3 ml. of aether was then added, the tube was tightly covered with a stopper and shaken vigorously for 30 seconds. Stopper was removed carefully and the tube was again centrifuged at 1,500 r.p.m. for 2 minutes. Plug of debris formed in between aether and formalin was freed from the sides of the tube by ringing with an applicator stick and the top three layers were decanted carefully. Iodine and unstained mounts were prepared in usual manner for microscopic examination.

INTESTINAL PARASITES ENCOUNTERED IN THE SELECTED COMMUNITY

Parasites are organisms which have adapted themselves to existence in or on another organisms. The intestinal parasites with which we deal belong to three Phyla of the Animal Kingdom, namely Protozoa, Platyhelminthes and Nemathelminthes (Blacklock, et al., 1953).

Seventeen intestinal parasites of different species were encountered in the selected population of the village Malakhera.

Names of the parasites encountered and their rates as averaged from eight surveys conducted during the study period are as under:-

Name of Parasites	Per cent
PROTOZOA	
Entamoeba histolytica	7.6
E.coli	44.8
E.hartmanni	6.2
Endolimax nana	8.2
Iodamoeba butschlii	8.9
Giardia lamblia	13.6
Chilomastix mesnili	3.3
Embadomonas intestinalis	1.7
Enteromonas hominis	0.4
HELMINTHS	
Hymenolepis nana	6.2
H. diminuta	0.1
Taenia solium	0.2
Ascaris lumbricoides	4.6
Hookworm	4.7
Enterobius vermicularis	1.0
Trichuris trichiura	0.9
Strongyloides stercoralis	0.1

Stool samples were collected in 10 per cent formalin. Hence Trichomonas hominis, Dientamoeba fragilis and trophozoite stages of other protozoan parasites could not be detected in the preserved faeces.

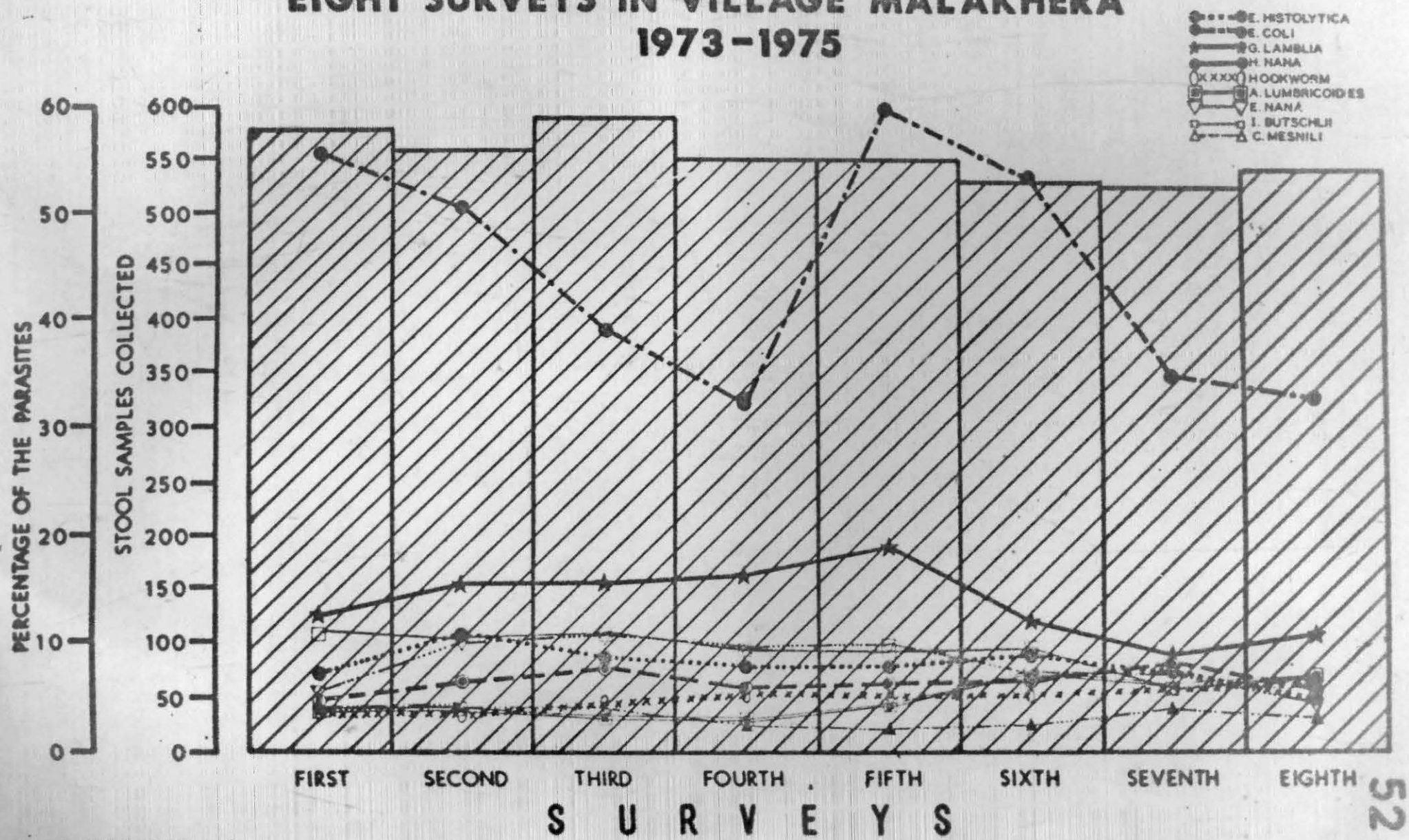
The actual rates especially for E.histolytica and G.lamblia would be higher than the observed as trophozoites were not looked for. The prevalence rate of E.vermicularis might be higher than that has been recorded if special method could be adopted. A brief discussion on the scope and limitation of the techniques followed is made under "Choice of methods" in page 44.

Parasites which are found in larger degree and the results obtained with them are analysed according to the objectives ofthe study and are discussed in detail. Those intestinal parasites whose prevalence rates were recorded very low are discussed briefly as the low prevalence of those parasites in the population under study makes analytical approach to all aspects quite superfluous. All that has been undertaken regarding those parasites are observations of their prevalence rates in the different quarters of the two-year study period and the variation in their prevalence with regard to age and sex. Pathogenic parasites are presented in Chapter I and non-pathogenic ones in Chapter II.

About 64 per cent of the population were harbouring one or more intestinal parasite. Single parasite was detected in 42.2 per cent of the positives, 38.3 per cent of the studied population had dual infection and 19.5 per cent had multiple infection. Thus about 58 per cent were excreting more than one intestinal parasite which demonstrated a common multiparasitism in this selected community. This is in agreement with Ricciardi (1974), Carney, et al. (1974) and Petana (1968).

The Graph 4, enclosed in the next page, presents the prevalence rates of common intestinal parasites encountered in eight surveys covering eight quarters of the two-year study period and the number of the faecal samples collected in each of the quarters.

GRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATION OF COMMON INTESTINAL PARASITES ENCOUNTERED AND TOTAL STOOL SAMPLES COLLECTED DURING EIGHT SURVEYS IN VILLAGE MALAKHERA 1973-1975



GRAPH NO. 4