Cutaneous leishmaniasis is prevalent in the Al-Hasa Oasis (eastern province of Saudi Arabia). The disease attained epidemic proportions in 1973 and subsequently declined reaching a plateau in the mid-1980s. L. major, widely distributed in the country, has been identified as the species causing zoonotic cutaneous leishmaniasis with P. papatasi as its vector and Meriones spp . and P. obesus as its reservoir hosts.

Cutaneous leishmaniasis was found commonly on the high plateaux and foothills of the Asir range in the south-west of Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

L. tropica was identified from only two foci with P. sergenti as its vector.

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