

LISTERIAL ABORTION AND ENCEPHALITIS IN A BUFFALO

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A 7 year-old buffalo carrying a 6 month foetus was presented to the hospital, Veterinary College, Bidar, with the signs of walking in circles, drooping of ear, paralysis of the lips with food hanging from its mouth, and anorexia. The body temperature was 103.2 F. Per rectal examination revealed a dead foetus. The buffalo was treated for listeriosis with oxytetracycline @ 10 mg per kg body weight for three days along with supportive therapy, ie. dextrose 10% and vitamin B complex. The dead foetus was removed manually. There was apparent improvement in clinical symptoms, i.e. reduction in intensity of circling movements and taking a small amount of food 3 days after treatment. The buffalo died on 4th day of the treatment. Post mortem examination revealed congestion of meningeal vessels. The brain tissue was collected in phosphate buffer saline and formal saline for cultural and histological examination, respectively. The serum collected during ailment was subjected

to compliment fixation test. On the basis of cultural morphological and mice pathogenicity tests, the isolate from brain was identified as pathogenic *Listeria monocytogenes*. Serum sample was positive for antibodies against listeria. Histological examination revealed microabscesses.

Encephalitis and abortion rarely occur in the same outbreak in listerial affected animals (Radostits and Blood, 1995). Report on the simultaneous occurrence of encephalitis and abortion in buffalo is not available. Hence, the present study records the simultaneous occurrence of encephalitis and abortion in listerial affected buffalo.

REFERENCES

Radostits, O.M.; Blood, D.C. and Gay, C.C. (1995). Veterinary Medicine (8th Ed.), ELBS.

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