

OLECRANON BURSTITIS IN RACE BUFFALOES - REPORT OF TWO CASES

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Hygroma is a localised swelling occurring as slow growth of fluctuating mass due to repeated trauma (Oehme and Prier, 1974). Lack of bedding on hard floors and narrow or short stalls which restrict free movement of the animal are predisposing factors. The skin gets thickened and the mass of thickened tissue and cellulites surrounds the swelling containing small quantity of fluid or pus inside. The cavity of bursa may be simple, bilocular or multilocular. In true bursitis the flexion of affected joint is normal without any pain and lameness. When bursitis extends into the joint cavity, septic arthritis, suppuration as well as restricted mobility of the joint is evident. (Tyagi and Singh, 1993). Bicipital bursitis (Tulleners *et.al.*, 1985), navicular bursitis (Merkens, 1977), carpal hygroma, and tarsal cellulitis. (Tyagi and Singh, 1993) have been reported in cattle. Besides the classical orthopaedic examination, radiography, centesis of the synovial cavity and ultrasonography can be used (Kofler, 1995). Two cases of olecranon bursitis in race buffaloes are reported in this paper.

A seven year old race buffalo with severe forelimb lameness of two months duration was presented to the Clinic, College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Mannuthy. Characteristic clinical finding at admission was a painful fluctuating, well delineated swelling at the point of elbow with a diameter of six to eight centimeter was determined to have olecranon bursitis.

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Animal was treated with parenteral antimicrobial treatment with Munomycin forte 5g intramuscularly for 5 days along with intrabursal injections of. Prednisolone 10 ml for 3 days and Artisone on the 5th day. Magnesium sulphate glycerine paste was applied during the course of treatment twice daily. The inflammatory swelling reduced within ten days of treatment and the animal was discharged.

A six year old race buffalo was presented with painful swelling of about ten centimeter diameter draining pus on the left elbow joint. The animal had severe forelimb lameness. The purulent discharge in the cavity was irrigated with 1 in 1000 potassium permanganate lotion and the cavity was packed with a gauze soaked in acriflavine daily for 5 days. The swelling was reduced within twelve days and the animal regained normal gait by two weeks.

The etiological factors suspected in this case due to chronic irritation and injury inflicted at the elbow joint by the toe of the opposite hind limb during racing. Subsequent infection to the area due to the contamination with mud may be the reason for suppuration. Treatments include providing rest, proper bedding to avoid further trauma, drainage and administration of antibiotics and corticosteroids. Radical surgery may be considered as a last resort (Oehme and Prier, 1974) when the swelling is large or fibrosed.



Mattupetty village to become the first 'model livestock village' in India

Mattupetty village near Munnar in Idukki district is stated to become the first 'model livestock village' in the country. The Hon Minister for Animal Husbandry Sri C Divakaran explained that the formal declaration was made as part of the Golden Jubilee celebration of Kerala formation. The programme is being implemented through a Rs 2.61 crore project supported by NABARD and implemented through the Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation.