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STUDIES ON ULCERATIVE LYMPHANGITIS IN BUFFALOES IN ASSIUT

(With 2 Tables)

By

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(Received at 28/2/1995)

دراسة عن التهاب الجلد التقرحي في الجاموس في محافظة أسيوط

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تم فحص ٢٠ حالة جاموس مصابه بمرض الجلد الالوي في محافظة أسيوط وتمت مناقشة الاعراض المرضية لهذا المرض وأمكن عزل ميكروب سترپتوكوكس فيكالكس بنسبة (٢٢٪) وكوريني أوفس بنسبة (٨٢٪). تم عمل اختبار الحساسية للميكروبات المعزولة ووجد اشملهم تأثيرا بالترييب الاتى: الجنتاميسين - السيفالوسين - الريفاميسين - الارثروميسين - الكلورمفينكول والدانفلزوسين وبيرجات متفاوتة لكل من الكلوستين - امبيسلين - كلوكسين - بوليميسين - حمض الناليسك ومقاوم لكل من نيتر وفيورون - التراسيكلين - دكسيلين. تم علاج الحيوانات المصابة بالمضادات الحيوية طبقا لنتائج اختبار الحساسية للحالات الحديثة وعن طريق التدخل الجراحي والمضادات الحيوية في الحالات المتأخرة. تم مناقشة الشروط الصحية لمقاومة هذا المرض.

SUMMARY

This study was carried out on 30 buffaloes aging (1-7 years) clinically affected by oedematous skin disease in different locality in Assiut Governorate. The clinical signs of affected animals has been described. The isolated organism in this investigation was one isolate of *Streptococcus faecalis* (3.33%) and 25 isolates of *Corynebacterium ovis* (83.33%) which represent the main cause of this disease. In refering to the effective treatment of affected animals, sensitivity test was carried out on various types of antibiotics. The isolated organisms were highly sensitive to Gentamycine, Cephalothin, Rifampicine, Erthromycin and Chloramphenicol. The hygienic measures in cantrolling the disease was discussed.

Keywords: Studies, ulcerative lymphangitis, buffalo, Assiut, Egypt.

INTRODUCTION

Ulcerative lymphangitis which is locally known oedematous skin is an infectious disease which is spread

over a large areas by unknown ways (AWAD 1966).

It affects buffaloes at different age from (1-7 years) and in both sex. It

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spreads in different localities. The affected animal had one or more swelling in the dewlap, fore or hind, left or right limb, shoulder, abdomen and side of head and neck. The swelling varied in size from an egg of hen to the size of water melons. Some times nodules appeared in the form of chain along lymphatic vessels which might coalesce particularly those on side of legs and dewlap accompanied with enlargement of regional lymph node. Unopened oedematous nodules contained bloody oedematous fluid. Oedematous parts had undergone necrosis leaving deep suppurating lesion and in some cases pure pus, the animals conditions were fair, little change in appetite and milk yields, slight, rise in body temperature.

The affected animals showed lameness in one or two limbs. The disease had been spread in different areas of the world and caused by *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis*, (ARPANO, 1934; PURCHASE, 1944; SOLIMAN *et al.*, 1963; AWAD, 1966; FOUAD *et al.*, 1974; BARAKAT, 1980; IBRAHIM *et al.*, 1983; ESMAT, 1984; ABD-EL-GAIL *et al.*, 1986 and ABOU-ZAID and HAMMAM, 1994).

So this work was done for isolation and identification of the causative agents of the disease in Upper Egypt [Assiut Governorate]. The effective antibiotic for treatment of diseased animals were used after sensitivity test.

MATERIAL and METHODS

In this investigation 30 aspirated samples were collected under complete aseptic conditions from unopened skin nodules, sternal fluids, oedematous parts in shoulder region, fore and hind limb accompanied by oedematous nodules containing pus (pus tangled with blood, pure pus and serous fluid) of infected buffaloes aging between (1-7 years), from different areas in Assiut province [Aboteeg-Abnob-Sedfa].

These samples were cultured separately on blood agar, MacConkey agar plates media and incubated at 37°C for 3 days. The isolated organisms were tested by morphological and biochemical methods according to CHRUICHSHANK (1975) and WILSON and MILES, (1983) for its characteristics and types. Sensitivity test were carried out for several types of antibiotics using disc diffusion method described by STOKYS (1986). These antibiotics were Danofloxacin (5 mcg), Refampicine (30 ug), Nalidixic acid (30 ug), Ampicillin (10 ug), Colistone (10 ug), Cephalothin (30 ug), Doxycycline (30 ug), Tetracycline (30 ug), Erythromycin (10 ug), Gentamycin (10 ug), Nitrofurantoin (100 mcg), Chloramphenicol (30 ug), Cloxacillin (1 ug) and Polymyxin (300 iu).

RESULTS

The results were tabulated in the Table (1) and (2).

DISCUSSION

Oedematous skin disease is an epizotic infectious disease appeared in buffaloes in Egypt *CARPANO (1934)* and *SOLIMAN *et al.* (1963)*. The animal signs were usually in the form of cutaneous nodules varying from a few to many, extensive oedema of one or two limbs, and marked swelling in the superficial lymph nodes. Secondary infection occurred, and extensive sloughing of the skin and underlying part was seen.

The result of this study showed that the incidence of *Corynebacterium ovis* isolated from skin lesion in buffaloes was 25 out of 30 (83.33%) as in Table 1. these results was nearly similar to those isolated by different workers. *CARPANO (1934)* described similar disease as occurring in a sporadic form on a small foci affecting cattle and buffaloes. The disease begins with isolated nodules inclosed in the thickness of the skin, these nodules increase in size, undergoes necrosis, ulceration and infiltration around the ulcerate as a result of necrosis with surrounding skin participating in inflammatory process with implication of the regional lymph node, he isolated a *Corynebacterium* and described it as diphtheriae like organism. A similar outbreak of ulcerative lymphangitis in cattle in the Reft valley in Uganda caused by *Corynebacterium ovis* which was isolated from 16 out of 19 affected cases (*PURCHASE, 1944*). Also *SOLIMAN *et al.* (1963)*

described clinically an ulcerative lymphangitis in buffaloes, they isolated the causative agents, typed, as a variety of *C. pseudotuberculosis*. This condition simulates those previously described one affecting cattle and buffaloes in Egypt by *CARPANO (1934)*, and *PURCHASE (1944)* in affected cattle in Uganda.

From the Table 1. the isolation of *Strept faecalis* as one isolate which may be incriminated in some sub-cutaneous abscess as secondary invaders.

In (1966) Awad in his studies on the so-called oedematous-skin disease of buffaloes in U A R showed that suppuration and ulceration of the nodules which occurs usually on the skin of the lower parts of the legs along the lymphatics are the main characteristic feature of the ulcerative lymphangitis in cattle, *NEOVE (1951)*, *HAGAN & BRUBNER (1961)* reported that the clinical picture is not that which has been met in ulcerative skin disease in buffaloes and showed that *C. ovis* have been isolated in pure culture from a cases of lumpy skin disease. *HENNING (1956)* stated that *corynebacterium* in pure culture commonly occurs in the uncoated pus in cases of lumpy skin disease. He concluded that it is a clinical symptoms of lumpy skin disease.

Also *SOLIMAN *et al.* (1963)* carried out a cross immunity and toxin neutralization tests in typing the strains isolated from the disease in

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buffaloes as a different strain of *Corynebacterium Pseudotuberculosis*.

KHATER *et al* (1981) could reproduce the disease by interadermal inoculation of a locality isolated strain of *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* in buffaloes. TORKEY *et al* (1982) pointed out that *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* produce a potent exotoxin being produced after experimental injection resulting in a local area of suppurative inflammation and necrosis. This explain that isolated microorganism may be the main cause of the disease. By using sensitivity test, it was found the most predominant effective antibiotics are arranged in chronological manner, Gentamycin, Cephalothine. Rifampicine, Erthromycin, Erthromycin, Chloramphenicol, Danofloxacin, Colistin Ampicillin, Cloxacillin, polymyxine, Nalidixic Acid, Nitrofurans, Tetracycline and Doxycycline as in Table 2. These results are nearly similar to those obtained by ABD-El-Galil *et al* (1986) and SHPIGEL *et al* (1993) who mentioned that Gentamycin, Cephalothin and Erthromycin, Cephalothin and Erthromycin were most effective against isolated organism.

The result of field treatment of infected animals with closed lesions (at early stage revealed good results)

treated with Gentamycine for a 5 days, when closed lesion contained pus, surgical treatment with antibiotic locally and systematic for 10 days gave good improvement. These results agree with IBRAHIM *et al* (1983), SHPIGEL *et al* (1993) and ABOU-ZAID and HAMM (1994).

From a Foremention studies, the organism may gain entrance through a skin abrasion and form initial suppurative inflammation of skin wound (SOLTY'S 1963). So contamination of wound may occurs especially those which are in contact with an infected sheep farm, as the animal secrete the organism in faeces (MADDY 1953).

BULL and DICKENSON (1933) and DANIES and AUSTIN (1932) recovered *Corynebacterium ovis* from the soil camping ground of sheep where caseous lymphadenitis was enzootic. It is possible that the organism being present in the soil invades lymph spaces of dermis and subcutis, SOLTY'S (1933).

So it recommended that hygienic measure must be taken in consideration in rearing animals in an area free from infected animals to avoid transmission of the disease as well as treatment of wound and control of insect vectors to prevent this disease.

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Table 1: Isolated organism from 30 Infected Lesion.

No.of case	Nature of Lesion	Nature of Samples	No. of + Ve Cases	Isolated Organism	%
22	closed lesion	Pus tinged with blood	22	<i>Corynebacterium ovis</i>	83.33
3	closed lesion	Serrous fluid	3	C.ovis	
1	closed lesion	Pure pus.	1	<i>Streptococcus faecals.</i>	3.33%
4	closed lesion	Pure pus.	-	-----	13.33%

Table 2: Antibiotic sensitivity test of isolated organism.

Isolated organism	No of Isolates	Antibiotic Discs								Colistin- (10 ug)
		Gentamycin (10 ug)	Cephatholin (30 ug)	Rifampicine (30 ug)	Erythromycin (10 ug)	Chloramphenicol (30 ug)	Danofloxacin (5 mcg)			
Corynebacterium ovis	25	20 + + + +	19 + + + +	17 + + + +	17 + + + +	15 + + + +	10 + + + +	10 + + + +	10 + + +	
		2 + + + +	2 + + + +	2 + + + +	1 + + + +	4 + + + +	5 + + + +	4 + + + +	4 + + +	
		3 + + + +	4 + + + +	6 + + + +	7 + + + +	6 — — — —	5 + + + +	11 — — — —	11 — — —	
							5 — — — —		— — — —	
Strept-faecals	1	+ + + +	+	+	-	-			-	
Isolated organism	No of Isolates	Ampicillin (10 ug)	Cloxacillin (1 ug)	Polymyxin (300 IU)	Naftidixic Acid (30 ug)	Nitrofurans (100 mcg)	Tetracycline (30 ug)	Doxycycline (30 ug)		
Corynebacterium ovis	25	8 + + + +	7 + + + +	5 + + + +	3 + + + +					
		7 + + + +	8 + + + +	10 + + + +	9 + + + +					
		10 — — — —	10 — — — —	10 — — — —	13 — — — —					
Strept-faecals	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--		