

IV. Try and determine the species of *Lepto* involved

- A. *Grippytyphosa*, *Canicola*, and *Icterohaemorrhagiae*—the primary sources are: small carnivores, rodents, wildlife or dogs.
- B. Hardjo and Pomona—the cow is the primary carrier.

V. Reduce exposure levels

- A. Utilize a constant rodent prevention program.
- B. Flush alleys only when animals are not present.
- C. Treat all dry cows with 25mg/kg streptomycin at drying off.

Abstracts

An outbreak of rabies in north-western Zimbabwe 1980 to 1983

D. J. Kennedy

Veterinary Record (1988) **122**, 129-133

The first case of rabies for 25 years was recorded in the Chinhoyi veterinary region of north-western Zimbabwe in September 1980. An epidemic in jackals (86 per cent of cases) with associated cases in cattle (7 per cent) spread rapidly north-westward through the commercial farming areas. Within 18 months the front had moved 180 km from the probable point of entry of the disease. One case was diagnosed a further 30 km to the north-west. Following a comparatively quiet period in 1982 a second epidemic developed in dogs and spread back 100 km south-eastward during the second half of 1983. Epidemiological factors, the behavioural features of cases and the ownership and vaccination status of dogs are reported. Dogs were a more serious threat to human beings than jackals and the only two known human cases occurred in late 1983. Factors contributing to the patterns of the epidemics are illustrated and discussed.

A survey of abomasal ulceration in veal calves

D. de B. Welchman, G. N. Baust

Veterinary Record (1987) **121**, 586-590

Abomasal ulceration was found in 264 of 304 commercially reared veal calves at slaughter. The incidence and severity of lesions were greatest in loose housed calves with access to straw and fed milk substitute ad libitum. The majority of lesions were located in the distal pylorus. There was no evidence that the abomasal erosions and ulcers found in the majority of veal calves affected their growth rate or were deleterious to their welfare. It is suggested that pyloric ulceration may be related to the diet of veal calves.

Mucosal changes associated with abomasal ulceration in veal calves

G. R. Pearson, D. de B. Welchman, M. Wells

Veterinary Record (1987) **121**, 557-559

The pyloric region of the abomasum of nine calves reared for veal and four conventionally reared calves aged from 12 to 18 weeks was examined. An increase in the depth of the mucosa with a loss of mucins in the region of erosions and ulcers was observed in the calves reared for veal. In the adjacent mucosa there was an increase in sulphated mucins in five of the seven veal calves with lesions. Focal areas of mucin loss without evidence of erosion or ulceration were recognised in one calf reared for veal and one conventionally reared calf.

Preventive anthelmintic treatment of grazing young cattle via supplementary feed and drinking water

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Veterinary Record (1987) **121**, 468-471

Twenty-six first season calves were allocated into four groups which were turned out on May 21 to graze separate permanent pastures. One group (group A) remained untreated. The others were treated each month with albendazole either as an oral drench (group B) through supplementary feed (group C) or through the drinking water (group D). Neither clinical disease nor weight gain depressions were observed in any group. Although the infection levels were low, the faecal excretion of trichostrongylus eggs, the serum pepsinogen activities and the pasture larval contamination all indicated a marked reduction in the levels of infection of groups B, C and D. The serum pepsinogen activities of groups B and C were similar and remained below 1 unit of tyrosine/litre of serum whereas that of group D was intermediate between these two groups and group A. The labour saving principle which was applied to group C is recommended under conditions similar to those of the present experiment.