

Article on Blue Tongue in Veterinary Pathology

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Veterinary pathology

Blue tongue is an infectious viral disease of sheep which is caused by orbivirus. It's characteristics are - 1. Oedema and Congestion of Face 2. Congestion and Cyanosis of Tongue 3. Endothelial Hyperplasia and Arteritis.

The virus belongs to reoviridae family. It is ds RNA virus.

Blue tongue is transmitted by insect biting which includes Culicoids and other mosquitoes and ectoparasites like Malophagus Ovinus. The infection is also transmitted by insemination from an infected male since semen contains virus and acts as a source of infection.

After infection viral replication starts in haemopoietic cells resulting in viraemia and replication in endothelial cells of blood vessels. The damage of endothelial cells results in the formation of Hyperemia, Haemorrhage, Edema and Thrombosis.

Characteristics symptoms

Fever (105-107degree celsius) Oedema Cyanosis of tongue Signs of mosquito bite on skin.

Macroscopic features

- On oral and nasal mucosa petechial haemorrhage is present.
- Abomasum and intestines show haemorrhage.
- On coronets haemorrhage is present which results to pododermatitis.

Microscopic features

- Muscles of coronets display haemorrhage.
- In coronets haemorrhage of vascular corium occurs.
- Tongue shows infiltration of mononuclear cells.

Blue tongue is Diagnosed by Immunodiagnostic tests-AGPT, ELISA.

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