1941

Lymphatic Leukemia in Bovine

H. E. Held

Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian

Part of the Large or Food Animal and Equine Medicine Commons, and the Veterinary Physiology Commons

Recommended Citation

Held, H. E. (1941) "Lymphatic Leukemia in Bovine," Iowa State University Veterinarian: Vol. 4 : Iss. 1 , Article 11.
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/iowastate_veterinarian/vol4/iss1/11

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Iowa State University Veterinarian by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
of the joints of the legs. Had this been a fully developed fetus, the operation might have been more difficult. A condition of chronic laminitis was aggravated at this time, but no further report of the case was received.

Conversation with a local stallion owner revealed he had observed two similar cases the previous year. The mares had been purchased and then forcibly bred, only to find that they were pregnant at the time as evidenced by abortion. In this dystocia forcible breeding was a benefit, but it is not usually the case. Careful examination by a competent veterinarian before breeding mares in which history is obscure may minimize such losses.

—J. W. Wilson, '42

3 Lymphatic Leukemia in Bovine.

Leukemia in our domestic animals is not a rare occurrence, although some practitioners have never encountered a single case. Late in August, 1941, five clinical cases of leukemia were encountered by the Iowa State College ambulatory clinic, all in the same herd and within a five month period. The herd consisted of twenty-three females and two males of the milking shorthorn breed.

The cow which prompted the client to call for veterinary service is the one shown in the accompanying cut. Enlargements were first observed by the owner in March, 1941, but at that time no other clinical symptoms were noticed. The cow, 7 years of age, when first observed by the ambulatory clinician, was very weak and emaciated, and showed a rather uniform enlargement of all the superficial lymph nodes. A blood count showed the white cells to number 120,600 per cubic mm., and the red cells 3,640,000 per cubic mm. The differential count showed a high percentage of immature lymphocytes.

A diagnosis of lymphatic leukemia was made, and the client informed of the hopelessness of the case. Upon questioning the client, two more cases of leukemia were found to be present in the herd. Both were in good flesh, but one showed a much greater enlargement of the superficial lymph nodes. A blood count from this cow showed the white blood cells to number 88,600 per cubic mm., and the red blood cells 4,020,000 per cubic mm. It was also learned that a cow having similar enlargements had died from tymanites two weeks previous to the call, and that another had been sold on the market one month before.

One week following the original call, a post mortem examination was held on the first cow. All the lymphatic tissue showed marked increase in size. The prescapular and prefemoral lymph nodes were about six inches in length, and the spleen was greatly enlarged, being about 30 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 4 inches thick. The cut surface showed the splenic corpuscles increased in size up to 2 cm. in diameter. The wall of the rumen and the diaphragm showed marked edema, and were undergoing necrosis, probably due to a circulatory disturbance.

It was noted that of the five cases, two were by the same sire and two were out of the same dam. —H. E. Held, '42

4 Sulfanilamide in Wound Healing.

A large purebred collie was admitted to the Glendale Small Animal Hospital, Glendale, California, having an ulcerated area circumscribing the left eye. The history was the following: the dog had belonged to a professional trainer

Fall, 1941