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Toxic Results from Phenothiazine

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Toxic Results from Phenothiazine.

On August 8, 1942, the veterinary ambulatory clinic of Iowa State College was called to treat a herd of 64 pigs for ascariasis. The caretaker reported that the pigs had been turned out on alfalfa pasture about two weeks before, and that the pigs were passing some round worms. The herd, except for a few poorly developed individuals, appeared to be a normal herd of 35 pound pigs.

One ounce of a commercial suspension of phenothiazine containing 12.5 grams of phenothiazine per fluid ounce was administered to each pig with a dose syringe.

On the following day, the ambulatory clinic was called to observe the unusual symptoms shown by some of the treated pigs. About one third of the herd showed some symptoms. Several of the pigs were completely paralyzed in the hind quarters. However, except for the paralysis and weakness of the hind quarters, the pigs appeared active. The temperatures of the affected pigs were normal, but a blood examination revealed anemia as shown by a reading of only 60 to 70 on the Tallqvist hemoglobin scale. One of the more severely affected pigs, a "runt" type, was returned to the diagnostic laboratory where a complete examination was conducted. The examination was negative except for a few ascarids in the small intestine and a general anemia.

The herd was again observed on the second day following the administration of the phenothiazine, and all the affected pigs were improved except that some of them showed an apparent blindness. A few days after this, all the pigs had recovered.

No treatment was undertaken, except that the owner was advised to administer the herd a hematinic in their feed in order to correct the anemia.

These cases of apparent toxic results from the administration of phenothiazine to pigs are the first that have been observed by the veterinary clinic at Iowa State College.

—R. P. Fisler, '43

Tail Surgery in a Horse. A gray American Saddle gelding was presented at the Stange Memorial Clinic with his tail deviating dorsally and laterally. The tail at its emergence from the tail head turned sharply up and then bent anteriorly and to the left. There were many scars around the tail head which indicated numerous previous operations.

The history of the patient was that several corrective tail operations had been performed since the original tail set, with