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Sinusitis in a yearling Shorthorn Steer

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Caminal-S tablet and some fresh liver. The temperature was 103.8°F. so six and one half cc. of Normal Feline Serum (Norden) were given subcutaneously. Night medication was the same as the previous night.

The next three days the cat was given one 100 mg. Polyotic Tetracycline Hydrochloride (Cyanamid) capsule and one Caminal-S tablet twice daily plus fresh liver. The temperature decreased to 102.6 on Feb. 20th. On Feb. 21st the patient was given 40 cc. of blood intravenously.

From February 23 to 27 the patient was given one 50 mg. Polyotic capsule three time daily and fresh liver was interchanged with C/D (Cat/Diet-Hill Packing Company). Laboratory tests of blood on February 26 revealed the following: RBC count—2,470,000; WBC count—21,000; Hemoglobin—2.2 gm.; Hematocrit—17.0 mm.

Hemobartonella felis organisms in RBC's.

The patient was discharged February 27 looking bright and alert. Twenty 50 mg. Polyotic capsules were dispensed to be administered three times daily. Also, six cans of C/D were dispensed.

The means of transmission of the organisms is not known. Other species have not been affected after attempted transmissions by various routes. Immunity after having recovered from the disease is weak or transitory or both. Blood transfusions and broad-spectrum antibiotics appear to offer the best results at the present time. Carriers are reported; consequently, donor cats should be checked.

Kenneth Hook, '60

REFERENCES

Sinusitis in a Yearling Shorthorn Steer. Sinusitis in cattle generally involves the frontal sinus, with the maxillary sinus rarely being affected. The most common cause of a frontal sinusitis is dehorning. Other less prevalent causes are injuries to the horn with hemorrhage into the sinus, extension of infection from the nasal mucous membranes, as well as contusions and fractures of the bones of the frontal sinus area. Malignant head catarrh and purulent rhinitis of calves have sinusitis as a secondary symptom.  

A 1 year old Shorthorn steer was admitted into Stange Memorial Clinic on February 9, 1959. The owner gave the history of the animal being purchased in a sales barn a short time previously, and it was not doing well.

The animal was then examined. A rectal temperature of 102.6°F. was recorded. It also was noted that there was a swelling somewhat dorsal to the right eye and over the frontal sinus. Ptosis of the upper right eyelid was noted. No nasal discharge was present.

Considering the symptoms, the age, and the fact that the animal had been dehorned, a diagnosis of frontal sinusitis was made. However, it is possible that the sinusitis might have injury or trauma as its etiology.

The area of the swelling was clipped, shaved, and scrubbed with soap and warm water. The area was then swabbed with alcohol. Four percent procaine was injected subcutaneously over the operative area.

A circular incision one inch in diameter was made over the highest point on the
swelling, and the circle of skin was removed. A ¾ inch trephine opening into
the frontal sinus was then made. As the bony plug was removed, a thick cheesy
pus exuded from the trephine opening. The sinus was then flushed out as thor­
oughly as possible with potassium permanganate (1:5000 concentration) solution.
Immediately following this, some Special Formula 17900 mastitis ointment (Up­
john) was injected into the sinus via the trephine opening.

The following day some pus was drain­
ing from the trephine opening. This was
cleaned off and the sinus was again
flushed with potassium permanganate
solution (1:5000). Three ounces of BIPP
(bismuth iodoform petrolatum paste)
were injected into the sinus. It was ob­
served that the animal had developed a
profuse liquid diarrhea, which was
thought to have resulted from absorption
of toxic materials from the infected sinus.
Two Kaobiotic bolets were administered
orally to help control the diarrhea.

In the following three days the animal
began to appear more alert, the appetite
improved, and the diarrhea subsided. For
three days the area of the trephine open­
ing was cleansed, and the sinus was
flushed with 1:5000 potassium permang­
anate solution.

After two more days of similar treat­
ment, the animal was ordered home, since
the area of the trephine was almost void
of exudate, and the trephine opening was
beginning to heal.

James R. Collins, '60

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A Case of Ergotism in the Bovine.
Ergotism, or ergot poisoning, is a
condition caused by continued ingestion
of feed containing ergot. The fungus is
found growing on barley, wheat, and
other grasses. Bluegrass, brome, and fesc­
cues have been suspected of being in­
ected. Claviceps purpurea is the fungus
most often involved, but probably other
fungi produce ergot. The sclerotium
(compact mass of hardened mycelium)
of the parasitic fungus replaces the seed
or grain.

When the sclerotia are consumed over
a period of time, toxicity is manifested in
cattle by lameness in the early stages. The
hind limbs are usually affected first. The
seriousness of the disease depends upon
the amount of ergot consumed. An inden­
ted line is noted at the junction of the