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Popular Article

Therapeutic Management of Degnala Disease in Buffalo

Vishnu Meena, Priyanka Meena

Department of Veterinary Medicine

Post Graduate Institute of Veterinary Education and Research

(PGIVER) Jaipur, Rajasthan

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Abstract

Degnala disease in buffaloes are recorded in paddy grown areas. The affected buffaloes exhibited skin lesions characterized by scaling, cracking and ulceration of the skin of ears, tail and all legs up to fetlock, pastern joints. Most animal showed tail gangrene, swelling of legs, inflamed skin with anorexia, decreased milk production and lameness. Animals were treated with penta-sulphate powder along with mineral mixture and supportive therapy with antibiotics, anti-inflammatory and antihistaminic drugs. All animals showed remarkable improvement within 15 days.

Introduction: - Degnala disease was recorded for the first time in 1939 in Pakistan. The disease is also recorded from various parts of India like Gujarat, Punjab and West Bengal. The occurrence of disease has been reported from rice grown area. The disease is very common in cattle and buffaloes where the animals are fed fungus infected paddy straw for long period of time. The buffalo are more susceptible to Degnala disease as compared to cattle. Exclusive feeding of paddy straw without complete drying before storage. The toxins produced by fungus (*Fusarium spp.*) is considered as the possible cause of Degnala disease. It may be due to Selenium toxicity because similar signs are recorded in the selenium toxicity. The disease is caused heavy economic losses because of decreased individual animal production, reduced growth rate and poor animal performance.

History and clinical observation: - The affected animal was shows prominent clinical signs such as oedema, necrosis and gangrene of depended part with the scaling, cracking and ulceration of skin of legs, teats, ears and tail. Most animals showed inflamed skin with sloughing of hooves, lameness anorexia and reduced in milk production. The history of animals revealed feeding of mouldy paddy straw to animals. On the basis of history, clinical signs and clinical examination, the disease was

diagnosed as Degnala disease.



Treatment: - The affected animals were treated with penta-sulphate mixture comprising of Magnesium sulphate 100gm, Zinc sulphate 75gm, Copper sulphate 25gm, Cobalt sulphate 5gm, Ferrous sulphate 160gm. 30gm of this mixture per animal per day orally for 15 days.

[Enrofloxacin@5mg/kgbw.t.i/m](#), [Meloxicam@0.5mg/kgbw.t.i/m](#), [Chlorpheniramine@0.4mg/kgbw.t.i/m](#)

And topically application of herbal antiseptic spray and as the disease is associated with the feeding of paddy straw infected with *Fusarium spp.* Hence farmer is also advised for the feeding of mycotoxin binder @5gm/per animal/per day. And change of mouldy paddy straw with the good quality straw. All animal started showing clinical improvement from 5th day onwards and complete recovered to normal in 15 days.

