



Beef Cattle Stuff

Mostly lungs and maybe a few toxic plants

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Today's 'stuff'



- Overview of CAHFS
- Pneumonia
- A few poisonous plants
- How to help yourself when submitting to the lab



California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratories

are located in:





CAHFS Mission





California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory System



Price changes



- Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Pig ≤ 3 mo no charge
- ->3 mo of age cattle: \$50 ea, others \$35 ea.
- April 1, 2019 increased necropsy fees
 - Cattle, Sheep, Goat, Pig ≤ 3 mo of age, up to 3 for \$135
 - Cattle > 3 mo of age \$140 each
 - Sheep, Goat, Pig > 3 mo of age \$135 each



































Bacterial Agents



- Pasteurella multocida
- Histophilus somni
- Streptococcus suis
- Bibersteinia trehalosi
- Mycoplasma bovis
- Trueperella pyogenes
- Others, e.g. Salmonella



Viral agents



- Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus (BRSV)
- IBR (Bovine Herpesvirus 1)
- PI3 (Bovine parainfluenza 3)
- Bovine Coronavirus (BCV)
- BVDv (Bovine Viral Diarrhea virus)



A few toxic plants



- Pyrrolizidine alkaloid containing plants
 - Common groundsel
 - Fiddleneck
- Liver damage
- Time lag to death







Tree Tobacco

- Fast acting
 - Nicotine
 - Anabasine
- Signs
 - Hyperexcitable
 - Muscle tremors
 - Increased heart & respiratory rates



Common Cocklebur (*Xanthium* sp)





Xanthium sp.



Clinical signs:

- Within a few hours after consuming immature plants.
- Depression, weakness, ataxia, vomiting, seizures, hypoglycemia, increased hepatic enzymes (AST, SDH), death hours to days later.
- Postmortem: fluid in peritoneal, pleural and pericardial cavities, fibrin and edema of gall bladder and serosal surfaces
- Microscopic: Hepatic centrilobular necrosis

Xanthium sp.



Diagnosis of Acute Plant Poisonings



- Find toxic plant in the environment.
- Find evidence of ingestion by the animal.
- Clinical signs and lesions must be compatible with the plant in question.
- Rule out other causes for disease.
- Contact toxicology laboratory for detection of the toxin in samples from the animal (if possible and desired).

Plant Identification



- **Collect entire plant (with root if possible)**
- **Keep fresh plants refrigerated**
- Send a representative sample (not just one little grab sample of hay)
- Take pictures and send them via e-mail
- Contact a veterinary toxicologist
- Save samples from the animal to confirm poisoning after plant identification (such as serum, urine, stomach contents, liver)



How can you help when submitting?



- Call your vet or the lab if you have questions or are unsure of something.
- Submit fresh samples if the carcass is bloated it is not fresh.
- It is okay to freeze some samples but not others again, call and ask.
- Make sure to let us know what and when the animal has been treated with – including vaccines.
- History, including clinical signs, duration, new animals into the group, animal movements, feed/water changes, etc are all important.

Consider submitting an untreated animal.

Questions??