

OUTBREAK OF BOVINE TRYPANOSOMIASIS UNLEASHED AFTER IMPROPER APPLICATION OF INTRAVENOUS MEDICINE

(SURTO DE TRIPANOSSOMOSE BOVINA DESENCADEADO APÓS MANEJO INADEQUADO DURANTE APLICAÇÃO DE MEDICAMENTO ENDOVENOSO)

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The outbreak occurred on a farm that uses high technology, in the rural area of Barra do Herons, MT. The problem appeared after the purchase of 200 Holstein and Gir cows, from Goiás, Mato Grosso and Minas Gerais. Among the 80 lactating animals under intensive management that were milked twice a day, about 45 displayed lack of coordination signs, pale mucous membranes, anorexia, persistent mastitis, falling production, agalactia, progressive weight loss, abortion, retained placenta and death of 19 animals (in less than 30 days). At first, tick fever was diagnosed, and the owner treated the sick animals with imidocarb, oxytetracycline and Flunixin meglumine. However, the problem persisted. To try to solve the problem, the support of the College of Veterinary of the Universidade Federal de Goiás was requested. Blood smears from 12 sick animals were prepared at the farm. The presence of trypanosomes was detected in three animals. During the interview, it was reported that the presence of horseflies in that region was not frequent and the problem was more common in animals up to 20 days postpartum. It was also reported that from the tenth day postpartum, the cows received daily 5 IU of oxytocin before milking, to assist in milk let-down, which was injected on the cranial superficial epigastric vein, using the same needle and syringe in all animals. The first signs of the disease appeared between five and ten days after performing this procedure. From these observations, emphasis was given to the type of iatrogenic disease transmission observed in this outbreak. Therefore, the recommendations transmitted to the producer aimed at treating the animals and correcting the management, which had been associated with the continuous spreading of the disease agent among the cows and resulted in failure of the first attempt to control the disease using trypanocidal drugs.

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