

**EPIDEMIOLOGIC AND PATHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF BOVINE
TUBERCULOSIS IN SOUTHWESTERN GOIÁS, BRAZIL**

*(ASPECTOS EPIDEMIOLÓGICOS E PATOLÓGICOS DA TUBERCULOSE BOVINA NA
REGIÃO SUDOESTE DE GOIÁS)*

**J. A. FERREIRA JUNIOR^{1*}, J. P. TERRA², M. M. DA COSTA¹, M. H. DA SILVA
LOBO¹, F. J. F. DE SANT'ANA³, M. P. MIGUEL⁴**

Histopathological records of bovine tuberculosis cases from the Laboratory of Veterinary Pathology, Federal University of Goiás, in Jataí (LPV, UFG, Jataí) from July/2010 to June/2013 were analyzed. The samples were processed for histology and stained with hematoxylin and eosin. During the period, 27 samples of the lung and regional lymph nodes of cattle were examined. Macroscopically, tuberculous granuloma was suspected in 10 samples (37%). Upon histopathological examination, six samples (6/10) had a diagnosis compatible with tuberculosis, but only one (1/6) was confirmed by the Polymerase Chain Reaction. The remaining samples were diagnosed as enzootic bovine leukemia (2/10), squamous cell carcinoma of the lung (1/10) and actinomycotic granulomas (1/10). The samples compatible with tuberculosis had originated in Jataí and Mineiros, in Southwestern Goiás. They were all from the same slaughterhouse and processing unit. The samples were from male animals aged between 25 and 132 months, of different breeds and periods of the year. The veterinarians responsible for meat inspection reported generalized lymphadenitis in the carcass, as evidenced by the increased volume, firm appearance, sometimes containing pus and "granules", in addition to the presence of well-defined yellow nodules in the lung, with caseous or calcified foci (creaked upon shearing). Histologically, the lesions consisted of focally extensive areas adjacent to the lung parenchyma of central caseous necrosis surrounded by inflammatory infiltrate with remarkable lymphocytes, plasma cells, neutrophils, epithelioid macrophages, and Langhan giant cells and/or foreign body and, sometimes, basophilic granules granular (mineralization) in necrotic areas. These findings are consistent with tuberculosis; however, it is essential to culture and isolate the bacteria and/or identify the acid-alcohol resistant bacilli in histological samples in order to confirm the disease. Thus, we can confirm the importance of epidemiological and sanitary control of bovine tuberculosis in the herds and slaughterhouses in southwestern Goiás.

1. Alunos de graduação do curso de Medicina Veterinária, estagiários do LPV, Jataí, UFG. *e-mail: janarasara@hotmail.com.

2. Médico Veterinário, residente do LPV, Jataí, UFG.

3. Professor adjunto, LPV/Universidade de Brasília (UnB).

4. Professor adjunto de Patologia Veterinária, LPV, Jataí, UFG.