

**A BIZARRE DISEASE CONDITION IN DRAUGHT DONKEYS**

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Four draught donkeys (3 males and one female) aged between 10-13 years were examined for the presence of homogenous bilateral swellings on their bodies. The areas involved were neck, upper thorax, upper flanks and rumps. The swellings (1/2 to 2 inches in diameter) had increased gradually over a period of 5 to 7 years and were moderately firm on palpation, non fluctuating and painless. Exploratory punctures did not reveal any fluid or pus. Hematological values were within normal ranges (Svendsen, 1997). Wet blood film examinations were negative for extracellular parasites such as Trypanosomes. The condition was not associated with any constitutional disturbance and work performance of the animal. The owners had made a recourse to our clinic for the treatment of disease problems other than the one under-reference, hence histopathological examination could not be made (the owner being unwilling to let the biopsy samples be taken). Although panniculities (an inflammatory reaction of the subcutaneous fat, which may involve the connective tissue septa between the fat lobes, the septa lobules and vessels, or the fat lobules characterized by

the development of single or multiple cutaneous nodules; (Anonymous, 1994) and subcutaneous tumours were considered as diagnostic possibilities, the same could not be confirmed for reasons given in the condition could not be found in the some standard textbooks of equine (Wintzer, 1986; Knottenbelt and Pascoe, 1994; Svendsen, 1997).

**REFERENCES**

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