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Proceedings & Abstracts

EXOTIC ANIMALS MEDICINE
FREE ORAL COMMUNICATION ABSTRACTS
DERMATOMYCOSES IN PET REPTILES CAUSED BY CHRYSOSPORIUM-ANAMORPH OF NANNIZZIOPSIS VRIESII (CANV) AND OTHER FUNGI

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**Topic:** 8. Exotic Animals and Rare Species / Infectious Disease of Reptiles

Exotic reptiles took up a niche of popular companion animals in recent years in Russia. However, inadequate maintenance conditions predispose animals to various infectious diseases including mycoses. Mycoses in reptiles can be caused by a wide range of opportunistic fungi and by true pathogens such as dermatophytes and *Chrysosporium* anamorph *Nannizziopsis vriesii* (CANV), true keratinophylic fungus.

The aim of the study was to determine the incidence and aetiology of dermatomycoses in pet reptiles in Moscow region. The mycological examination of clinical samples from 78 reptiles showing skin lesions was conducted. Seventeen reptile species were presented including green iguana (*Iguana iguana*) (31 animals), tortoise *Trachemysscriptaelegans* (9), tortoise *Trionyx chinesis* (6), agama *Pogonavitticeps* (5), python *Python regius* (4), gecko *Hemitheconyx caudiscinctus* (4), monitor lizard *Varanus griseus* (3), frill-necked lizard *Chlamydosaurus kingii* (3), spiny-tailed lizard *Uromastyx* (3), skink *Tiliquascincoides* (2), chameleons (3) and others.

Mycoses were diagnosed in 61 cases (78.2%). The dominating causative agent was *Chrysosporium*-anamorph of *Nannizziopsis vriesii* (CANV) (33.8%) followed by *Fusarium* species (27.5%, including *F. moniliforme*, *F. oxysporum*, *F. solaniand F. chlamydosporum*), *Penicillium chrysogenum* (10.7%), *Trichosporon cutaneum* (6.1%), *Geotrichum candidum* (4.6%), *Trichotecium roseum* (3.0%), *Chaetomium arthrobruneum* (3.0%), *Cryptococcus ater* (3.0%), *Candida spp.* (3%), *Aspergillus candidus* (1.5%), *Alternaria alternata* (1.5%), *Rhodotorula rubra* (1.5%).

High occurrence of dermatomycoses in reptiles was revealed. The keratinophylic fungus CANV appeared to be the main causative agent though its first detection in Russia was reported by the authors just a few years ago (2007).
THE COMMONEST CAUSE OF PLUCKING AND BITING IN PET PARROTS IS ALL TO DO WITH SEX

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Topic: 8. Exotic Animals and Rare Species / Advanced Avian Medicine

Many pet parrots suffer from feather plucking and many of the same pet parrots bite some or all of their owners. Such parrots are either passed from owner to owner, or restricted to solitary confinement in a small inadequate cages, living a miserable and deficient life. Few vets or owners understand the behavioural or welfare needs of parrots. It is our duty, as the professional advisors to parrot owners, to be in a position to better advice and correct what are all too often inadequate welfare and management standards. Yes – much of it is to do with unfruitful, mis-directed breeding relationships which result in breeder frustration. We can and must do better – we owe it to the birds.
METABOLIC BONE DISEASE (MBD) IN PET MONKEYS

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Topic: 8. Exotic Animals and Rare Species / Emerging Diseases

Metabolic bone disease (MBD) is a term used for a number of syndromes associated with abnormalities of calcium homeostasis and metabolism. It is a more and more popular problem in pet monkeys such as common marmosets (Callithrix jacchus), cotton top tamarins (Saguinus oedipus) and pygmy monkeys (Callithrix pygmaea). In these particular species calcium requirement is very high.

MBD is mainly caused by the breeding and feeding errors such as:

- Improper Ca: P ratio in the diet
- Insufficient supply of UVB light
- Deficiency of calcium, protein and vitamin D in the diet
- Improper breeding and nutrition
- Inadequate ambient temperature

And other primary diseases:

- Kidney or liver failure (problem of conversion of vitamin D to its active form)
- Bowel disease (malabsorption)
- Thyroid or parathyroid glands disease (improper production of hormones regulating the metabolism of calcium)

Terms associated with MBD concern also:

- Secondary hyperparathyroidism
- Rickets
- Osteoporosis
- Bone fibrous osteodystrophy
- Hypocalcemia

The main role of exotic pet veterinarian is to educate the owners about very specific breeding requirements of these small primates and prevent the occurrence of metabolic bone disease.

In the presentation diagnostic methods and treatment of MBD will be presented as well as the most interesting cases of MBD in pet monkeys.
TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF LEPTOSPIROSIS AMONG CAPTIVE WILD CARNIVORES: AN EMERGING ZOONOTIC DISEASE

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Topic: 8. Exotic Animals and Rare Species / Emerging Diseases

Type of Session: Oral

The loss of 04 carnivores (Tiger, Lion, Leopard and Jaguar) in a short span of 20 days during the month of August-September, 2010 under captive conditions with different etiologies and the indicative P/m findings in Jaguar of Leptospirosis infection led to conduct the sero-surveillance against the disease in all the carnivores. All the samples were positive for the presence of antibodies against Leptospira interrogans serovar icterohaemorragiae with MAT titre ranging from 1:200 to 1:1600. The other serovars isolated were L. gryppotyphosa, L. pomona & L. javanica. Haematological and Biochemical analysis of all the sample revealed marked Neutrophilic Leucocytosis with mild to moderate left shift and toxic changes in PMN & increased platelets count indicative of Septicaemia.

All the animals were administered therapeutic and prophylactic antibiotics and supportive therapy for at least 28 days regularly with constant monitoring of vital parameters. Strict management interventions were followed with Disinfection Protocols in & out the enclosures to combat the contagious nature of the disease, removal of the possible sources of infection, improving the ventilation and supplementing the feed with vitamins and minerals to boost up the immune status of the animals.

The post-treatment analysis of the samples, after 30 days of the last prophylactic treatment showed MAT titre against the disease, less than 1:80 and with no mortality thereafter. After the regular monitoring and implementation of management practices for 90 days, the samples were again tested for the MAT titre; the results showed insignificant titres against the disease.