
ASPERGILLOSIS : A CASE REPORT**E van Schreven**

Aspergillosis sps of fungi, are often found in poorly sealed silage stacks. Systemic Aspergillosis is an uncommon disease, though it is recorded in all spp (8,9). In its systemic form, the nodules in the lung of about 1 - 3 mm resemble tuberculosis. I record the case we saw to reinforce Aspergillosis as part of a differential diagnosis in these cases.

Here is a slide of what miliary tuberculosis case would look like. Grossly the case of Aspergillosis did not look on gross examination any different than this.

The history of the farm made the diagnosis of tuberculosis unlikely as we had just completed a whole herd test with the 7/558 reactors being slaughtered as reactors in the DSP as non-visible lesions.

On histological examination the presence of hyphae in the granulomatous lesions confirmed a fungal infection as the most likely cause.

The deer was part of the yersinivax trial, a vaccinate, and as such was presented for post-mortem as part of the trial. The mob was on silage, grain and every second day shift. This particular animal was one of the smallest in the mob and in poor condition. It is probable that it was at the bottom of the pecking order and as such was forced to eat some of the left over rubbish that was more likely to contain the fungus.

In conclusion, remember Aspergillosis can cause deaths, so care with what is fed out of a silage stack is necessary, and also consider it as a differential diagnosis in cases of miliary tuberculosis where the history is highly suggestive of Tb being unlikely.