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| Logo AGES | |
| Tritrichomonosis | |
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| 30.01.2025 06:24 Uhr | |

**Tritrichomonosis**

**Tritrichomonas
foetus**

Last
change:
14.10.2024

**Profile**

Bovine
tritrichomonosis
(trichomonad
disease)
is
a
disease
transmitted
by
unicellular
parasites*(Tritrichomonas
foetus*)
during
mating.

**Occurrence**

Worldwide;
in
Central
and
Western
Europe
the
trichomonad
disease
has
been
largely
eradicated

**Host
animals**

Cattle

**Infection
route**

Tritrichomonosis
of
cattle
is
transmitted
during
mating.
Bulls
can
be
lifelong
carriers
and
excretors
of
the
parasite

**Incubation
time**

Early
abortions
usually
occur
2-4
months
after
the
mating
act

**Symptoms**

In
cows,
premature
abortions,
frequent
re-calving,
prolonged
calving
intervals,
sterility.
Bulls
often
show
no
clinical
symptoms

**Therapy**

Insemination
animals
are
monitored
in
order
to
prevent
a
reintroduction
of
the
pathogen
into
domestic
herds.
Chemotherapeutic
agents
are
not
authorised.
In
females,
only
symptomatic
treatment
is
indicated
when
clinical
signs
occur.

**Prevention**

The
most
effective
prevention
in
cattle
is
artificial
insemination.
Although
transmission
with
frozen
semen
is
also
possible
with
artificial
insemination,
it
is
very
rare
because
of
the
regular
examination
and
isolated
keeping
of
the
insemination
animals.

**Situation
in
Austria**

Tritrichomonosis
in
cattle
has
been
practically
eradicated
in
Austria.
The
disease
is
notifiable
according
to
the
Breeding
Diseases
Act.

**Technical
information**

*Tritrichomonas
foetus*
(bovine
strain)
is
morphologically
identical
to
*Tritrichomonas
foetus*
from
cats
(diarrhoeal
pathogen),
but
differs
slightly
genetically.
There
is
no
definite
evidence
that
cats
are
a
source
of
infection
for
cattle
under
natural
conditions.
Genetically
also
closely
related
is
*Tritrichomonas
suis*.
Differentiation
of
the
pathogen
from
contaminating
trichomonads
from
the
intestinal
tract
or
the
environment
can
be
performed
by
PCR.

The
main
site
of
infection
in
bulls
is
the
preputial
cavity.
In
cows,
the
vagina,
uterus
and
fallopian
tubes
are
colonised.
The
pathogens
can
persist
there
for
up
to
7
months.
Clinically,
cows
are
noticeable
due
to
premature
abortions,
frequent
cowshedding,
prolonged
calving
intervals
or
sterility.
Bulls
often
show
no
clinical
symptoms.

**Diagnostic**

The
pathogen
is
detected
microscopically
and
culturally
from
rinse,
semen
and
swab
samples
or
abortus
material.
*Tritrichomonas
foetus*
is
pear-
to
spindle-shaped,
has
three
anterior
flagella
and
a
long
trailing
flagellum.

**Contact**

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