

## Therapeutic Management of Theileriosis in a Calf: A Case Report

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### Abstract

Two month-old male Cross-bred Jersey (CBJ) calf was presented with the history of cloudiness in the right eye, tick infestation and anorexia for a period 10 days. Clinical examination revealed pyrexia, enlarged prescapular lymph node and manifestation of unilateral corneal opacity in the right eye. anaemia, neutropenia, lymphopenia and thrombocytopenia were observed. Blood smear was found to be positive for *Theileria annulata*. Calf was treated with buparvaquone @ 2.5 mg/kg BW deep intramuscularly along with supportive treatment. Animal showed uneventful recovery following treatment.

**Keywords:** Corneal opacity, Theileriosis, Buparvaquone, calf

### Introduction

Bovine tropical theileriosis is an endemic protozoal disease primarily affecting cattle, buffalo, sheep, goats and horses. Clinical manifestations include high fever, lymphadenopathy, anemia, icterus, anorexia, lacrimation and occurrence of occasional ocular lesions like conjunctivitis (Constable *et al.*, 2017). The present report describes the successful therapeutic management of theileriosis in a calf.

### Case History and Obseeration

Two month-old male Crossbred Jersey (CBJ) was presented with the complaint of anorexia, heavy tick infestation, lacrimation, unilateral cloudiness in the right eye (Fig. 1 and 2) for 15 days. Clinical examination showed pale mucous membrane, enlarged prescapular lymph node, tachycardia and pyrexia (103.6 °F).

Hematological examination revealed anemia, leukopenia and thrombocytopenia. Blood smear revealed signet ring shaped piroplasm's of *T. annulata* in erythrocytes (Fig 3) and was confirmed through Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) assay.

### Treatment and Discussion

Calf was administered with two doses of Buparvaquone (@ 2.5 mg/kg b.wt deep IM at 48 hours interval), meloxicam (@ 0.5 mg/kg b.wt IM SID), dextrose normal saline (@ 10 ml/kg b.wt IV SID), Ringers Lactate (@ 10 ml/kg b.wt IV, SID), and B complex vitamin (@ 10 mg/kg IV SID for 5 days). For the tick infestation, ivermectin (@ 0.2 mg/kg b.wt SC) was administered. After 15 days of treatment, the corneal opacity reduced markedly (Fig.5) and uneventful recovery was observed.



Pre and Post treatment image of corneal opacity in a CBJ calf

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Bovine tropical theileriosis is an endemic protozoal disease affecting ruminants like cattle, buffalo, sheep and goats. Ocular involvement in theileriosis is uncommon but may occur due to infiltration of infected leukocytes into ocular tissues, immune-mediated inflammatory reactions, microvascular damage and hypoxic injury. A few reports of ophthalmological conditions were observed in the case of Bovine tropical theileriosis such as exophthalmos, conjunctival hyperaemia, oedema of eyelid and chemosis as reported by Taylor *et al.*, (2007).

## References

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