



Simple indigestion

Introduction

Simple indigestion is a minor disturbance in ruminant GI function that occurs most commonly in cattle and rarely in sheep and goats.

CAUSES

- Dietary abnormalities of minor degree like Indigestible Roughage, particularly when protein intake is low.
- Moldy, overheated and frosted .
- Moderate excesses of grain and concentrate intake.
- Prolonged or Heavy oral dosing with antimicrobials.

PRIMARY ATONY

- Dietary abnormalities.
- Increase or decrease pH of the contents.
- Accumulation of indigestible food.
- Putrefaction of protein Production of toxic amides and amines – histamine.

CLINICAL SIGNS

- Reduction in appetite
- Mild depression and dullness.
- Rumination ceases and depressed ruminal movements - in frequency and amplitude
- Rumen larger than normal with mild abdominal pain and Discomfort
- Moderate tympany with doughy rumen
- Dry Feces and quantity reduced. 24 hrs later feces are softer and voluminous and malodorous.
- No systemic reaction.

CLINICAL PATHOLOGY

➤ Urine:

ketone

SAT

➤ Rumen fluid : cellulose digestion test,

➤ pH test

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

- TRP
- Acidosis
- LDA
- RDA
- Abomasal volvulus
- vagal indigestion
- secondary ruminal atony
- phytobezoars

TREATMENT

- Most cases recover spontaneously.
- Feeding of good quality palatable hay
- Rumenatorics:.
- Metoclopramide : for hypomotility associated with vagal nerve damage.
- Epsom salts 0.5 to 1.0 kg/ adult cow
- Reconstitution of ruminal microflora