

8. Summary

Erysipelas of swine – A contribution to the history of the domestic animal diseases

The history of erysipelas is represented by the beginning of the first written sources up to the end of the Second World War.

The work is subdivided after time-historical sections, whose political-territorial, economical, scientific and veterinary conditions serve to assist in the understanding of the events.

In the respective epochs on the basis historical excessive quantities one tries to assign the described epidemics and illnesses of the pigs after its clinical process and the symptomatology to erysipelas or however different diseases. Further the different theories about the disease causes and the disease emergence, as well as general and special therapy and prophylaxis measures in the change of the time are shown.

The meager antique and medieval recordings, to a large extent being based on an empirical approach, permit a large clearance for interpretations and speculations. Despite deeply embodied religious and superstitious embarrassment already effective beginnings for handling epidemic situations are to be found in different animal-medical writings of this epoch. Altogether however the impression of the therapeutic faint outweighs in the antiquity and the Middle Ages.

In the chapters following on it the enormous discovery spirit, the reason of new fields of research and the scientific departure in medicine and veterinary medicine starting from the modern times are represented. The force of expression of the literary sources from this epoch increases slowly and creates the condition for the switching of a more comprehensive picture over occurrences and knowledge conditions of erysipelas. The increase of historical excessive quantities, due particularly to the introduction of the printing, makes a detailed view possible of the happening at that time.

The following sections dedicate themselves to the discovery of *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* toward the end of the nineteenth century and the intensive study of the exact character, coming off, as well as the fight possibilities of erysipelas following on it. With the lengthy process of the separation of this important illness of other pig diseases one deals more in greater detail.

With collection first cases of erysipelas documented try the occurrence and the spreading of this illness in the past epochs to reconstruct. The intensification of the diagnostics and the development of therapeutic measures and the first vaccines are described in detail. Supplementing references to the ubiquity and resistance of the erysipelas exciter follow, as well as favoured factors for the outbreak of the illness.

Finally a short overview of the occurrence of erysipelas with other animal species, as well as is given with humans.