

8. SUMMARY

Prevalence of canine teeth diseases in horses

The purpose of this research study was the investigation and evaluation of all canine teeth diseases and their occurrence among patients being accommodated and treated at the Clinic for Horses, General Surgery and Radiology (Free University of Berlin) during the period from 14th of May 2003 until 09th of December 2003. The examination and results were focused on the diseases in regarding the patients' sex, age, and race. Radiographic datas from Clinic for Horses, General Surgery and Radiology (Free University of Berlin) were also assessed for the prevalence of canine teeth diseases in horses.

A total of 164 patients were considered for this study. Among them were 57 mares, 107 male. No abnormalities were found in the canine teeth of mares.

Within the total of 107 patients of the observed male population the abnormalities found in this research study were the following: canine caries (2,8%), gingivitis (5,6%), cementhypoplasia (3,7%), canine fracture (1,8%), peaks of canine tooth (16,80%), calculus (53%).

The results of this study show that tartar (calculus), canine fractures and peaks of canine tooth were most diagnosed among horses younger than 10 years of age. In contrast, gingivitis was most detected within the groups of horses not older than 15 years. Caries was only found in the group up to 4 years old. The cement hypoplasia was diagnosed by horses older than 16 years.

In microbiologically examined 15 calculus samples from canine teeth were found 14 Genera of anaerob bacteria and 2 Genera of aerob bacteria. Bacteria from Genera *Fusobacterium*, *Prevotella* and *Actinobacillus* were dominant among the isolated anaerobic bacteria. Facultativ anaerob bacteria from *Streptococcus* Genera were found in 70% of examined calculus samples and bacteria from *Streptococcus* Genera were found in 27% of examined calculus samples.