COMPARISON OF INFECTIOUS BURSAL DISEASE VIRUS ISOLATES FROM TAMIL NADU

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Infectious bursal disease virus is of great economic importance to the poultry industry. Till date existence of various pathotypes of IBD virus such as standard serotype 1, variant serotype 1, very virulent serotype 1 and serotype 2 were reported from different parts of the world. In India, IBD was first reported in 1971. Pathogenic and antigenic characterization of infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV) isolates obtained from

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the outbreaks of IBD in chicken during the years 1991, 1992, 1993, 2000 and 2006 revealed that all these IBDV isolates from Tamil Nadu belong to standard serotype 1 as there is no rapid bursal atrophy and absence of spur formation in modified AGPT. Field IBDV isolates and commercial vaccine virus were closely related and there were no statistically significant differences. Absence of clinical symptoms or mortality in experimentally inoculated chicken is suggestive of synergistic effect on the causation and severity of lesions by IBD in natural outbreaks due to concurrent factors such as velogenic form of Newcastle Disease, *E.coli* infection, aflatoxin or critical micro environmental conditions.