SIII 18. Preparation of *Theileria annulata* piroplasm antigen

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Calves were experimentally infected through blood/ticks to induce *Theileria annulata* parasitaemia for preparation of piroplasm antigen. Four calves were splenectomised for
recrudescence of *T. annulata* parasitaemia. Infected blood was collected at 30 per cent and 15 per cent parasitaemia level for preparation of two batches of piroplasm antigen by sonication method and at 15 per cent parasitaemia level for preparation of antigen by ammonium chloride lysis method. The protein content of antigen was estimated by spectrophotometer at 280 nm. The protein content of two batches of antigen prepared by sonication method was 10 mg and 5 mg/ml, respectively and antigen prepared by ammonium chloride lysis method was 1.6 mg/ml. Of these two methods, sonication method was found to yield higher protein content and gave good results in ELISA and dot-EIA, whereas antigen prepared by ammonium chloride lysis method did not react well.