ACUTE RUMINAL ACIDOSIS IN A GOAT-SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT

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A 21/2 years old female goat of non-descript breed was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal with the complaint of anorexia, bilateral distension of abdomen, profuse watery diarrhoea. The case had a history of recent feeding with rice gruel and clinical examination revealed bloat, moderately sunken eyeball indicating dehydration, distended abdomen, fluid splashing sound by percussion. Rumen fluid was collected, examination of which revealed greenish brown colour with semisolid consistency, acrid odour, nil protozoa and an acidic pH (5.3). From the above findings, this case was diagnosed as acute ruminal acidosis due to excess carbohydrate engorgement. The case was treated with oxytetracycline @ 10 mg/kg bwt in normal saline (slow intravenous) followed by 7.5% sodium bicarbonate along with supportive therapy including administration of antihistaminic, antibloat agent, B-complex and intravenous fluid. On subsequent day with supportive therapy, the case showed a successful recovery returning to normal appetite. It is concluded that excess carbohydrate feeding could result in acute acidosis with fatal outcome, however early and timely treatment of the case is necessary for prevention of rumenitis and successful recovery of the case.

Keywords: Goat, Acute Acidosis, Ph -5.3, Successful Treatment

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