Impaction of the Gizzard in a Captive Western Crowned Pigeon (Goura Crista)

S. Hemalatha¹, S. Muthukrishnan, Debiprasanna Das, R. Sridhar and C. Balachandran
Department of Veterinary Pathology, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai-600 007

(Received : 14-05-2013; Accepted : 06-07-2013)

The impaction of gizzard in a captive Western Crowned pigeon in India in recorded.

Materials and Methods

A captive male Western Crowned pigeon was brought for necropsy with the history of inappetance, not passing faeces, flying from side to side within the enclosure for about one week followed by sudden death. The bird was subjected to detailed examination. Formalin fixed tissues were sectioned, stained with haematoxylin and eosin for histopathological studies.

Results and Discussion

The carcass was emaciated. The oesophagus was coated with mucous. Crop was empty. Proventriculus did not reveal any abnormality. Gizzard was enlarged and impacted with numerous small sized pebbles and two large sized pebbles, one located partially obstructing the passage between the gizzard into the duodenum (Fig. 1). The mucosa of the gizzard showed areas of erosions and congestion. Intestinal contents were mucous mixed. The liver and kidneys appeared congested. Histopathological studies showed patchy areas of haemorrhages in the mucosa with focal erosions in the gizzard. Liver revealed periportal infiltration of lymphocytes. Lungs revealed pneumoconiosis in alveolar macrophages. Impaction of the gizzard has caused toxemia. Further enquiries with the owner revealed that an aquarium maintained in the farm was cleaned and the pebbles were thrown on the ground. The pigeon was allowed free range in the farm. This had lead to the accidental ingestion of the pebbles causing impaction. Although, impaction of the crop, proventriculus or gizzard has been reported in poultry, waterfowl and ratites (Bedanga et al., 2012; Vijayalingam and Senthilkumar, 2009 and Komnenou et al., 2003), this paper appears to be the first report of impaction of the gizzard in a captive Western Crowned pigeon. The negligence in management practice lead to the death of the bird.

References


¹Corresponding author: Email : hemacul@yahoo.com

Fig 1. Western Crowned Pigeon – Impaction of the gizzard with pebbles causing obstruction