

# TRAUMATIC OESOPHAGITIS IN A BROILER CHICK

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The broiler production in Tamil Nadu become a fast growing industry in the poultry sector. In spite of many infections and metabolic diseases affecting the broiler population, a condition known as traumatic oesophagitis is uncommon in normal course. However, the wire, beads, string and fine chains may get lodged anywhere in the digestive tract between crop and the gizzard and cause traumatic oesophagitis (Arnall, 1961).

A broiler chick aged about 3 weeks brought to Avian Disease Laboratory for postmortem to find out the cause of death. On postmortem examination a foreign body perforating through the thoracic oesophageal wall was found. Blood clots were noticed around the site of perforation. The foreign body was a rusted thin nail, about 2 inches in length perforating from both the sides of the oesophageal wall. Histopathologically massive infiltration of heterophils and mononuclear cells with destruction of superficial epithelium were noticed.

The present case was diagnosed as traumatic oesophagitis due to the ingestion of foreign body might be accidentally mixed in the feed in feed mill, that might have travelled down through a hollow muscular oesophagus and on reaching the distal end of the thoracic oesophagus, would

have pierced through the wall of the oesophagus. According to Misra and Angelo, (1980) poultry may ingest foreign bodies as they cannot chew or masticate and the condition is diagnosed only on the post-mortem.

## REFERENCES

- Arnall, L (1961); Anaesthesia and surgery in cage and aviary birds. Vet. Rec. 73: 188-192.
- Misra, S.S. and Angelo, S.J. (1980); Foreign bodies in the gizzard of poultry. Poultry Guide. 17:39.

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