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Diagnostic methods to detect uterus illnesses in mares

Miguel Alejandro Silva Rua, Celia Raquel Quirino, Rachel Bittencourt Ribeiro, Eulogio Carlos Queiroz Carvalho, Maria de Lourdes Amaral Bernadino, Aylton Bartholazzi Junior, Luisa Fernanda Cipagalta, Marcus Antônio Pessanha Barreto



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1 Diagnostic methods to detect uterus illnesses in mares “Revised”

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3 Miguel Alejandro Silva Rua<sup>1\*</sup>, Celia Raquel Quirino<sup>1</sup>, Rachel Bittencourt Ribeiro<sup>1</sup>,  
4 Eulogio Carlos Queiroz Carvalho<sup>1</sup>, Maria de Lourdes Amaral Bernadino<sup>1</sup>, Aylton  
5 Bartholazzi Junior<sup>1</sup>, Luisa Fernanda Cipagalta<sup>2</sup>, Marcus Antônio Pessanha Barreto<sup>1</sup>

6 <sup>1</sup> Laboratory of Animal Reproduction and Genetic Improvement, Northern Rio de  
7 Janeiro State University (Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense/UENF), Av.  
8 Alberto Lamego, 2000, Campos dos Goytacazes, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

9 <sup>2</sup> Medicina, Veterinaria y Zootecnia, Universidad de los Llanos, Km. 12 Vía Puerto  
10 López - PBX. 6616800, Villavicencio, Meta, Colombia.

11 \* Corresponding author. E-mail addresses: miguelvet-rua@hotmail.com,  
12 miguelalejandro22rua@gmail.com

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#### 14 **Abstract**

15 Uterine illnesses are the major problem in horse reproductive programs. The diagnosis  
16 of these pathologies is often neglected or does not provide enough information about the  
17 cause. The aim of this study was to evaluate different diagnoses to provide more  
18 accurate information about endometritis and the real endometrial profile at the  
19 beginning of a breeding season. Fifty-one mares with reproductive failure were  
20 evaluated. Two different uterine cytology diagnoses, culture of uterine flush material  
21 and biopsy assay, were performed. The data were analyzed by the Chi-squared test to  
22 compare different diagnostic methods for the same sample from each mare, and  
23 sensitivity and specificity tests were performed. Most of evaluations showed no  
24 association between cytology and other diagnostic methods, except with bacterial  
25 culture. The most common bacterium found was *Escherichia coli*, but it was not

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