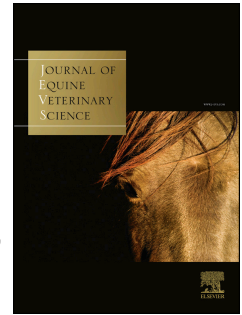


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Plugged Ampullae in a Donkey Stallion (*Equus asinus*)

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Title PLUGGED AMPULLAE IN A DONKEY STALLION (*Equus asinus*)

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Abstract

The donkey jack sex glands are larger compared to stallions, responsible for producing most part of seminal plasma and the second fraction of ejaculate, along with epididymis tail. Plugged ampullae occur by sperm accumulation obstructing the lumen, inducing decrease in sperm quality and may cause azoospermia. In this study, a Pêga breed donkey jack, aging four years old was evaluated for breeding soundness evaluation due to a sudden decrease in semen parameters and low fertility rates. Palpation, measurements and ultrasound exams of testicles were normal, however rectal palpation revealed increase volume of ampullae and deferent duct and the transrectal ultrasonography revealed distended ampullae with hyperechogenic material in the ampullae lumen. After ampullae massage, the semen was collected with artificial vagina for evaluation, resulting in high concentrated semen (1.46×10^9 spermatozoa/mL) with low motility (5%), 14% of major defects and 57% of minor defects. Plugged ampullae was suggested and the treatment was performed by ampullae massage per rectum and three consecutive semen collections associated with the parenteral use of oxytocin 20 IU iv aiming to discharge the semen accumulation. Daily regimen of semen collection was recommended during 10 days, after this time, semen was collect at least three times a week. The semen parameters restored to normal (80% motility) after 30 days. The donkey jack returned to the breeding season with regimen of three days a week of semen collection.

Keywords ampullae, donkey, obstruction, plugged, semen, spermiostasis.

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