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Pasteurellosis means infections with pasteurilla species. *Pasteurella multocida* is known to cause a variety of infections among many species of domestic animals. In Sri Lanka, only haemorrhagic septicaemia (HS) in cattle and buffaloes caused by *P. multocida* have been reported until recently. In 1982<sup>3</sup> HS due to *P. multocida* sero type 6:B in a wild elephant was reported. In 1975<sup>1</sup> it was reported that all cases of HS among cattle and buffaloes in Sri Lanka are due to *multocida* type 6:B

We report the isolation of *P. multocida*, other than sero type 6:B from infections in different species of animals and the isolation of *Pasteurella haemolytica* from a herd of goats affected with pneumonia.

*P. multocida* species was isolated from pigs suffering from pneumonia in two pig farms at Thotupolawatta and at Talatu Oya. Both those isolates gave similar biochemical reactions to each other and to those of type 6:B causing HS in cattle, but both species were not typable with any of the *P. multocida* types; A,B,D and E antisera. Both were mildly pathogenic or non pathogenic to white mice while 10 organisms of HS causing type 6:B isolates were highly pathogenic.

These results show that there is an antigenic difference between the isolates from pigs and HS cases of cattle. Another strain of *P. multocida* biochemically similar to Type 6:B but differing in pathogenicity to white mice and non agglutinable by types ABD and E antisera was isolated from chronic pneumonia cases in a herd of calves (below 4 months age) at Ambewala Farm. Recently a *P. multocida* species biochemically resembling HS serotype 6:B, but differing in pathogenicity to mice and untypable by sera A,B,D & E was isolated from body abscesses and brain tissues of rabbits. These isolates differed morphologically from the rest of the pasteurilla types discussed they formed mucoid rough type of colonies on blood agar. On the basis of hysalurinedase test these have been tentatively identified as belonging to type A:A.

Horadagoda<sup>2</sup> had isolated *Pasteurella haemolytica* from pneumonic lungs of goats slaughtered at Colombo abattoir and postulated that *P. haemolytica* would play a significant role in goat pneumonia in Sri Lanka. We have isolated *P. haemolytica* type II, from a herd of about 100 goats suffering from chronic pneumonia and cough. *P. haemolytica* differ from *P. multocida* biochemically, morphologically (haemolytic on blood agar) and in pathogenicity to white mice (non or very low pathogenic).

These recent findings of more pasteurilla species associated with diseases of a number of species of animals show that pasteurilla species could pose a greater disease threat than merely HS.

#### References

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2. Horadagoda N.U. (1981) *M.V.Sc Thesis*, Univ. Sri Lanka, Peradeniya
3. Wickremasuriya, U.G.J.S. et al (1982) *SL Vet.J* 30 (2) 24