

-----Original Message-----

From: June Williams [mailto:June.Williams@up.ac.za]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2011 3:45 PM

Subject: Re your horse which died

Dear client,

I would just like to let you know that we did a partial post mortem on your horse for teaching purposes this morning (no charge) and feel I should let you know what we found, since other horses may be similarly affected and it is easily missed and usually not treated. I hope you don't mind but we learn from every case we do.

He had rotated his large intestine to the left front, but possibly this was related to the numerous flukes we found in his colon and caecum. They are called *Gastrodiscus aegyptiaca*, and we don't see them commonly at all. When we do, it's often with a different kind of gut displacement than was in your horse. These flukes are carried by snails which live around ponds or bodies of water. Your horse must have picked them up in such a setting at some stage if that is not possible now. These flukes do not respond to normal treatment but one of the ruminant (cattle) treatments apparently works- it's called Tramisole. I will give you the email address of a very good vet who used to work at OP who did several of these cases clinically. She knows the dose and how to give it -maybe you have other horses in the same situation which should be treated. She is Dr Cynthia Donnellan and her email address is liam@webafrica.org.za

Your horse also had a mild bot infestation in the stomach and strange black nodular lesions in the large intestinal wall (only a few- I will look at them under the microscope but they are most likely also worm related).

Perhaps you could give your vet this information and they could do the finding out about treatment and testing the faeces of the other horses. We found a catheter in a jugular vein and assumed a vet had treated your horse.

Sincere sympathy on the loss of this horse as well.

Regards

Dr June Williams

Dept of pathology

Vet Faculty

Onderstepoort.

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