

23/sr

AHVLA Ref. No. 23-M0531-04-12

AHVLA Penrith
Merrythought
Calthwaite
Penrith
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FAO Paul Duff

Sender's Ref.	Not Given
Previous Ref	Not Given
Owner	ESCOT ESTATE DEVON
CPHH	Not Given
Date Received	27/04/2012
Date of Sampling	Not Given
Case Vet	Paul Duff
Species / Breed	Beaver / Beaver
Sex / Age	Male / Adult
Samples	Animal Presented Dead x 1
Animal IDs	Beaver
Sub. Reason	Diagnostic Casework

REPORT 2 (FINAL)

CLINICAL HISTORY

The previous night the river was flooded and this beaver was seen to shakily climb onto a grass field in the morning around 10 o'clock regurgitating froth. Initially it wasn't caught but having taken to the water it remained on the surface and was easy to catch. The breathing was reported to be harsh and it died early in the afternoon.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Identification	Sex	Age	Weight (kg)	Body Condition	Degree of Autolysis	Submitted Live/Dead/Frozen
Beaver	Male	Adult	18.5 kg	Good	Mild	Dead

LABORATORY FINDINGS

Bacteriology: Prolonged routine bacterial culture of the liver, heart blood and lung remained sterile even after prolonged incubation.

HISTOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Histological examination carried out by Alex Barlow.

Liver: There is mild autolysis. A scatter of formalin pigment is seen throughout section but no significant pathological changes.

Kidney: This is moderately congested and slightly autolysed. No significant pathology identified.

Lung: This is intensively congested. There is very pale eosinophilic fluid present to varying extent generalised in alveoli. Occasional, florid focally extensive foci of neutrophils are seen.

MORPHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS

Peracute moderate focal pneumonia

Charges as shown on the first report

COMMENT

There is evidence of very acute inflammatory response in the lungs. It is possible that this could be sequelae to this animal being accidentally trapped for longer than is usual under water due to the flooding. I have asked Derek Gower if he has ever heard of beavers being accidentally drowned, although drowning is a method used for killing beaver in North America.

SUMMARY

There is evidence of very acute focal pneumonia. However, the cause has not been identified.

Alex Barlow BVSc MSc MRCVS
Veterinary Investigation Officer
17/05/2012