

SEROPREVALENCE OF BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS IN TRADE CATTLE SLAUGHTERED IN IBADAN, NIGERIA

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Seroprevalence of bovine brucellosis was investigated during a serological survey carried out on 400 sera collected from abattoirs in Ibadan, Nigeria. Twenty-five (6,3 %) sera were positive by the Rose Bengal plate test. Using the serum (tube) agglutination test based on *Brucella abortus* antigen, 20 (5,0 %) showed agglutination with 11 (2,75 %) of these being positive having antibody titres of 1:80 or above.

Highest frequency of slaughter and infection rates were observed for White Fulani, Keteku, Red Bororo, Muturu and Sokoto Gudali in that order. N'dama and Kuri were rarely slaughtered ; no infection was found in these breeds.

Brucellosis was found to be endemic in trade cattle in Nigeria. The low prevalence observed in this study could probably be due to nomadism since the level of infection is known to be generally low in nomadic trade cattle. Brucellosis continues to be a risk to human population in Nigeria especially with occupational exposure.

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