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Frequency of bovine viral diarrhea virus antibodies in sows in southern Brazil

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Introduction

This study was conducted to investigate the prevalence of BVDV antibodies in intensively raised sows.

Materials and Methods

Three slaughterhouses were conveniently selected to collect samples for this study. In total, 434 serum samples of 53 different herds from Santa Catarina state were sampled. Samples were tested by virus neutralization (VN) test, as recommended by the "*Manual of Diagnostics Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*".

Results

A sample was considered positive when the total neutralization of 200 TCID₅₀ occurred in the serum and no cytopathic effect was observed in the cell layer in serum dilutions higher than 1:10. A herd was considered positive when at least one animal was detected with antibody titer ≥ 10 by VN test. Apparent animal-level antibodies prevalence of 1.38% was detected. Regarding the BVDV genotype, 0.46% showed antibodies for BVDV-1a (Singer strain) and 1.38% for BVDV-2a (VS 253 strain). Considering herd-level prevalence 11.32% was detected. The frequency of antibody titers obtained in the seropositive samples for the genotype 1 and 2 found in the VN test were between 10 and 320. The occurrence of antibodies to BVDV-2 was higher than to BVDV-1.

Conclusion

The results show evidences that BVDV infection in sows occurs in Brazil probably in low prevalence like prevalence detected in other countries. Grant #2014/13590-3, São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP).

Keywords: BVDV, pestivirus, virus neutralization