Infectious Bursal Disease in Chickens

with metaplastic changes into stratified squamous epithelium with formation of keratin, extensive fibroplasia and presence of a caseous necrotic core almost filling the bursa, which get reduced into a sac-like structure are not encountered in experimental cases. However, experimental cases were observed only for 22 days PI and duration of lesions in natural cases appear to be long-standing. Moreover, secondary infection in natural cases might also be a factor in producing such extensive bursal destruction as compared to experimentally-infected bursae which were culturally negative for bacteria. Some other concurrent factors such as Vitamin A deficiency (Winterfield et al., 1962) and infection with Marek's disease (Jakowski et al., 1969, 1970) might have a synergistic effect on the causation and severity of lesions by IBD in natural cases, whereas these factors are not associated in experimental infection.

The low embryonic mortality and the ability of embryo-passage materials to become avirulent for 21-day-old chicks might be the result of using embryos from the similar source where incidence of the disease was recorded. These embryos appear to have parental antibody which might have reduced or prevented the take in these embryos (Winterfield, 1969).

**SUMMARY**

Infectious bursal disease (IBD) was recorded during routine post-mortem examination of chicks. Clinical signs, gross pathologic and histopathologic changes in natural and experimental infection did not differ from those described in other countries.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The authors acknowledge with appreciation the encouragement and technical facilities provided by Dr. C. M. Singh, M.S., Ph.D., Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly, U.P. Technical assistance of Mr. Sartaj Bahadur is duly acknowledged.

17. —, _Avian Dis._, 1969, 13, 543.

**SYMPOSIUM ON TROPICAL ECOLOGY**

In January 1971, the International Society for Tropical Ecology, International Association for Ecology and the Indian National Science Academy sponsored a Symposium on Tropical Ecology, emphasizing Organic Production, at New Delhi, India. Delegates from nine nations discussed the current state of production ecology in tropical regions. Since tropical ecosystems are of major importance in the ecology of the biosphere, yet are relatively poorly known, it is important that an integrated program be undertaken with the objective of developing tropical ecosystem models which could be used for management and land-use planning. Several large sets of data, accumulated from studies in Thailand, India, Ivory Coast, Congo, Panama, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico, could form the basis for modelling. The Symposium explored some of these and other data.

A working group was formed to provide integration of tropical ecology research and training. This group, consisting of K. C. Misra (India), F. Malaisse (Congo), E. Medina (Venezuela) and F. B. Golley (U.S.A.), will endeavour to produce a newsletter, an annual bibliography on tropical ecology and will organize a follow-up symposium at an appropriate place and time. Hopefully, the working group will be able to interact with all persons and groups interested in tropical ecology. To this end, tropical ecologists are invited to send items of interest for a newsletter to K. C. Misra (Department of Botany, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India) and publications for an annual bibliography to F. Malaisse (University of Lubumbashi, Lubumbashi B.P. 1825 Conga-Kinshasa).

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