
SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

ISOLATION OF *SALMONELLA ALBANY*

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SEVERAL rare serotypes of *Salmonella* have been isolated and reported from Manipal from time to time¹⁻³. These serotypes were of both human and animal origin. Here we report the isolation of two strains of *S. alban*y (8, 20:z₄, z₂₄:—), one from human and the other from animal source. To the best of our knowledge, this appears to be the first report of isolation of this serotype from India.

One strain of *S. alban*y was recovered from the stool of an adult male during September 1983 and the other was isolated from the intestinal contents of a spider collected at a house around Manipal during December, 1983. The strains were identified by standard procedures^{4,5} and serotyped at Adelaide, Australia and Central Research Institute, Kasauli. Biochemically, the strains belonged to subgenus I, group C₃. The strains exhibited a positive reaction in lysine and ornithine decarboxylase, arginine dehydrolase and citrate utilization and methyl red tests. They fermented glucose, mannitol, xylose, inositol, sorbitol, rhamnose and arabinose with the production of acid and gas; but failed to ferment lactose, sucrose, adonitol, raffinose and salicin. The strains produced H₂S; but yielded negative reaction in Voges-Proskauer, indole and urease production, tryptophan deaminase and ONPC tests.

Serologically, the strains agglutinated with *Salmonella* O antisera to factors 0-8 and 0-20. No agglutination was recorded to O factors 6 and 7. The organisms agglutinated with antiserum to H factors z₄ and z₂₄ and specific serum to H - z₂₄. The strains did not exhibit a second H phase.

The antibiogram revealed their sensitivity to most of the commonly employed drugs like ampicillin, chloramphenicol, gentamycin, kanamycin, streptomycin, tetracycline, trimethoprim-sulphamethoxazole, nalidixic acid, cephaloridine, polymyxin B and neomycin;

but they were resistant to sulphadiazine.

*S. alban*y (8, 20:z₄, z₂₄:—) was first isolated by West and Edwards⁶. It is interesting to note the recovery of 2 strains of a hitherto not reported salmonella serotype from 2 different sources at the end of 1983. Perhaps this becomes the first report of isolation of *Salmonella* from a house spider, that too a rare serotype. The dangerous role of these spiders, which live in close association with animals and human beings in houses, buildings, sheds etc, in the spread of pathogenic salmonella needs attention.

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