

Efficacy of the toltrazuril 5% as coccidiostatic for cattle*

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Rafahel Carvalho de Souza¹, Rogério Carvalho Souza¹, Renato de Oliveira Santos, Sérvio Vinicius Gonçalves Ribeiro², Andre de Barros Duarte Pereira³, Maria Isabel Vaz de Melo¹

¹Médico Veterinário, Professores do Departamento de Medicina Veterinária PUC Minas; ²Graduando em Medicina Veterinária da PUC Minas – Betim; ³Estudante de Doutorado da Universidade de New Hampshire, EUA.

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Coccidiosis is a protozoan disease with high negative impact over production and economic results for the Brazilian cattle farming. The *Eimeria* spp is the most common protozoan and attacks mainly the young cattle, leading to gastrointestinal problems and clinical aspects as bloody diarrhea and hemorrhagic enteritis. This document presents results of the application of Toltrazuril 5% as coccidiostatic, applying 15mg/kg of live weight in a hundred Nelore heifers, with seven arrobas in average. The experiment was conducted in the Arrojo Farm, Teófilo Otoni county, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. The treatment and control groups were selected randomly, and just after separation all heads were identified and weighted, and one group treated. After 30 and 60 days, the groups were weighted again. Stool samples were collected per head for laboratory exams during the first and the last weighting of the cattle, counting for eggs per gram of stool (EPG) and the oocysts per gram of stool (OOPG). The statistical analysis was based on Tukey and Friedman tests. The results do not prove statistical difference between the treatment and control groups in relation to gains of weight and EPG, as presented in Tables 1 and 2 below. However, statistical difference was demonstrated for the presence of OOPG (Table 2). We conclude that the cattle's protozoan charge in the beginning of the experiment was not enough to cause lesions in the gastrointestinal mucous and perceptible changes for weight gains, but the efficacy of the Toltrazuril 5% for reducing the protozoan charge was proven.

Table 1. Results for gains of weights between the studied groups (control and treatment). The "gain of weight" variable was generated through the difference of weights from the first and third weighting, applying the Tukey test.

Group	Average Weight gained (Kg)	N	E.E.	Statistic Difference
Treatment	39,39	36	2,62	A
Control	35,76	29	2,92	A

OBS: averages of same letter do not present significant statistical difference ($p \leq 0,05$)

Table 2. Comparison of variables OOPG and EPG within the treatment group, between the first and third weighting, based on Friedman Test.

Collect	Sum	Average	N	Statistic Difference
EPG_3	53,50	1,49	36	A

EPG_1	54,50	1,51	36	A
OOPG_3	47,50	1,32	36	A
OOPG_1	60,50	1,68	36	B

OBS: averages of same letter do not present significant statistical difference ($p \leq 0,05$)