

## Salmonella or Paratyphosis (Wing disease)

The etiologic agent is a bacterium called Salmonella Typhimurium.

It enters the body orally through contaminated water, feces or food. It may happen that the groundwater is contaminated especially when well water is given or that the pigeons are defecating in the drinkers or feeders, it may happen that the mice are urinating the food.

It is a disease directly related to hygiene problems in our lofts.

Salmonella colonizes intestinal cells preferably enterocytes and through them spreads to all organs of the animal.

Normally the intestinal flora prevents Salmonella from entering, therefore for there to be an invasion of these there must be some predisposing agents such as immunosuppression or a sweep of the intestinal flora.

It can manifest itself in four different ways:

Acute: there is diarrhea, the pigeon weakens, becomes skinny, quilluda and in some cases can even die.

Articular: it is a bacterium that usually migrates to the joints, taking refuge in the synovial fluid, preferably in the wing joint, producing inflammation and falling of the wing, as well as in the joint of the legs, producing swelling and limping.

Nervous: this manifests itself with torticollis, tremors and paralysis in pigeons. These symptoms must be differentiated from Paramyxovirus

Systemic: it invades the circulatory system, spreading throughout the body and causing death.

One of the biggest drawbacks that control this disease has are asymptomatic carriers, in the case of females they eliminate salmonella with the egg, causing the abortion of the embryo. The fancier finds black eggs with the death of the embryo. In the case of the male, it produces orchitis (inflammation of the testicle) which leads to poor spermatogenesis and infertility, we will find white eggs without gall. It may happen that salmonella penetrates the egg through the pores of the shell, in this case the squab is born but it is stunted, it usually opens its legs, spoiled.

Another way to infect the pigeon is through the porridge that its parents give it.

## Diagnosis

This is done in the laboratory with special cultures for salmonella. Once the salmonella has developed in these cultures, an antibiogram is performed to determine the antibiotic of choice for this strain. Cultures are done with cloacal swabs or stool culture.

## Treatment

The treatments are long up to 21 days with permanent antibiotics in the water. The most used antibiotics are:

Enrofloxacin

Ampicillin

Chloramphenicol

Gentamicin

Furazolidone

Prevention

Hygiene of both the loft and the drinkers and feeders

rodent control

Vaccination are generally vaccines made with bacterin. Vaccination can be carried out twice a year, the first to the entire campus before putting the houses with a booster after 15 days. The second vaccination is recommended 20 days after setting them apart, some fanciers are vaccinating the entire stock three to four times a year. It is a very difficult disease to eradicate, when it appears repeatedly it is advisable to sacrifice the entire campus.

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