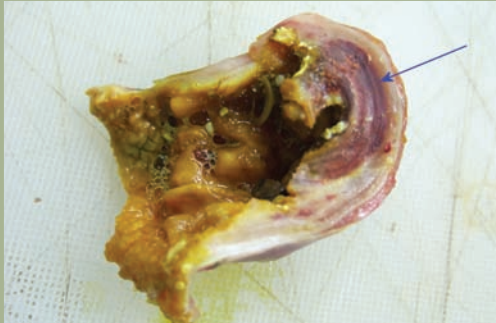


WHAT'S NEW IN THE LITERATURE

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Thickened ventricular keratin secondary to candida-gastritis

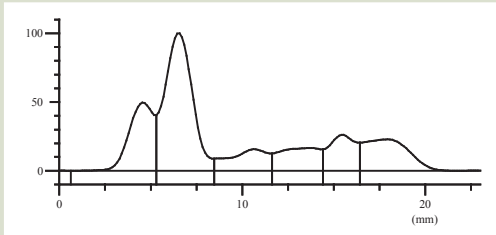
Amyloidosis caused by gastric candidiasis in captive Stone curlews (*Burhinus oedicnemus*) in the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.)

Amyloidosis is an increasing problem seen in captive Stone curlew (*Burhinus oedicnemus*) in the UAE. From 60 Stone curlews, necropsied over the last 3 years, 50 (83%) revealed hepatic amyloidosis in conjunction with gastric candidiasis. Beside poor condition, mild to massive thickened keratin-layers are seen in the gizzard during necropsy. Histopathology revealed severe proliferative-necrotizing inflammation with lot of pseudohyphae in the keratin-layers, typical for candida spp. *Candida albicans* was isolated in 19 out of 25 cases. Marked hepatic perivascular amyloidosis was found in conjunction with the candida caused gastritis. Only in advanced cases diffuse amyloidosis of the hepatic Disse' space was seen as well. Statistical analysis showed a strong link between gastric candidiasis and hepatic amyloidosis. These lesions are unique in Stone curlews. It is known, that captive birds are more prone to candidiasis than wild birds. Previous antibiotic treatment may have triggered the candida-gastritis. Since most of our cases came from captive breeding programmes, any poor growing bird should be checked for candidiasis.

Acknowledgements

References may be found in the full version of this paper published as: Kinne et al. (2007) Proc. European Assoc. Avian Veterinarians, April 2007, Zurich Pp 402-405. A pdf is available for download at the WME News website.

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Electrophoretic pattern in a healthy Houdou bustard.

1=prealbumin, 2=albumin, 3=Alpha 1, 4= Alpha 2, 5= Beta and 6= Gamma

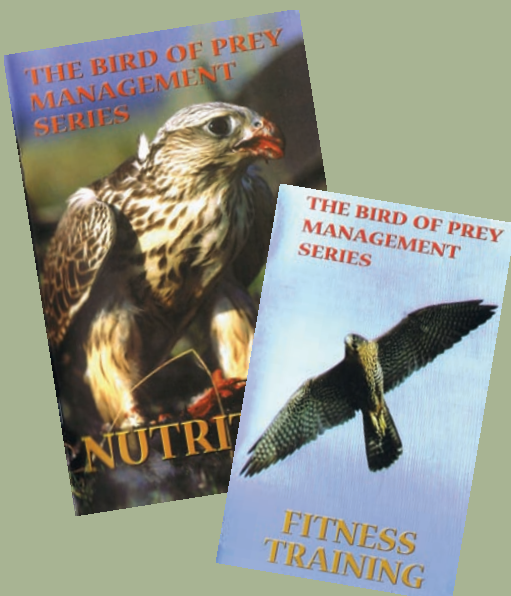
Plasma protein electrophoresis in clinically healthy asian houbara bustards (*chlamydotis macqueenii*) using high resolution agarose gel electrophoresis

Plasma protein electrophoresis is a valuable tool for evaluating health of birds, both in diagnosing infectious and inflammatory disease and clinical monitoring of the avian patient. However, proper interpretation of plasma electrophoresis results requires relevant species-specific reference ranges, due to differences in electrophoretic mobility of plasma proteins between avian species. Therefore plasma protein electrophoresis was performed at the Dubai Falcon Hospital on heparinised blood samples collected from 18 healthy adult Asian houbara bustards to obtain reference values for this species. Healthy houbara bustards appear to have six major plasma fractions with albumin showing the highest peak (15 g/L). Prealbumin, Beta and Gamma fractions had similar peaks with values between 7-8.2 g/L. Alpha 1 and 2 fractions showed the lowest peaks (3.3 and 2.73 g/L). Except for the prealbumin percentage, there were no statistically significant differences between females and males.

Acknowledgements

References may be found in the full version of this paper published as: Wenger, S., et al. (2007), European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians Conference, May 2007, Edinburgh Pp 339-340. A pdf of the article is available for download at the WME News website.

Bird of Prey Management Series



The Bird of Prey Management Series has been produced by the experienced team at the Falcon Research Institute, UK. This series is the first and only international distance learning course available for falconers, breeders, rehabilitators, veterinarians and for raptor biologists in further education. The series makes up a complete course covering all aspects of raptor management. Each module consists of a dvd between 60 and 90 minutes long, broken into chapters for easy reference. Each film is accompanied by a Handbook in English giving additional technical details. The first three modules form a FOUNDATION COURSE for anyone wanting to get started in keeping birds of prey, while the more advanced modules cover basic and advanced aspects of falconry training and captive breeding.

FOUNDATION COURSE - 1. Nutrition, 2. Anatomy, 3. Health Care

FALCONRY - 1. Basic Training, 2. Fitness Training, 3. Behaviour and Learning

CAPTIVE BREEDING - 1. Preparations for breeding, 2. Imprints and inseminations, 3. Incubation and hatching, 4. Rearing

These dvds and books have great educational value and one cannot help but think that such a series should be produced for other groups of wildlife. To those of us who have seen the damage that some falconers with a poor biological understanding can inflict on their birds the educational messages relayed in the modules can only improve the management of raptors in captivity. The series is derived from the book Understanding the Bird of Prey by Dr Nick Fox. This is a recommended text for some major falconry clubs and some university courses. In the Middle East the dvds and booklets are available from: sales@zoohealth.com