

Quebec

Distribution of *Streptococcus suis* capsular types in 1995

From January to December 1995, 659 streptococcal isolates were submitted as *Streptococcus suis* for serotyping. Of these, 408 originated from either the clinical bacteriology laboratory of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Montreal, or the provincial veterinary laboratories in Quebec. The other 251 isolates were received from other Canadian provinces and the United States. Serotyping was carried out using the coagglutination test. The capsular types of the 659 isolates of *S. suis* are given in Table 1.

Capsular type 2 remains the most prevalent serotype (18%), followed in decreasing order by capsular types 1/2, 3, 4, 7, and 8. Capsular types 15, 20, 32, and 33 were not found in 1995. The distribution of capsular types of isolates originating from Canadian provinces other than Quebec and from the United States was similar to that in Quebec, and data are, in general, comparable to those previously reported (1,2).

Table 2 shows the distribution of the 6 most prevalent *S. suis* capsular types between 1990 and 1995. In general, between 60% and 70% of all isolates belonged to one or another of the 6 serotypes listed. The number of untypeable isolates is relatively important (17%). We intend to propose new capsular types in the near future.

References

- Higgins R, Gottschalk M. Distribution of *Streptococcus suis* capsular types in 1993. *Can Vet J* 1994; 35: 245.
- Higgins R, Gottschalk M. Distribution of *Streptococcus suis* capsular types in 1994. *Can Vet J* 1995; 36: 320.

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Table 1. Numerical distribution of capsular types of *Streptococcus suis* in 659 isolates recovered from diseased pigs in 1995

Capsular type	Number of isolates	%	Capsular type	Number of isolates	%
1	4	<1	18	1	<1
2	119	18	19	6	<1
1/2	92	14	20	0	0
3	77	12	21	3	<1
4	52	8	22	7	1
5	15	2	23	15	2
6	1	<1	24	1	<1
7	53	8	25	2	<1
8	48	7	26	3	<1
9	15	2	27	2	<1
10	2	<1	28	3	<1
11	3	<1	29	2	<1
12	4	<1	30	2	<1
13	3	<1	31	1	<1
14	1	<1	32	0	0
15	0	0	33	0	0
16	5	<1	34	2	<1
17	3	<1	NT	112	17

NT = Untypeable isolates

Table 2. Distribution in percentage of the 6 most prevalent *Streptococcus suis* capsular types between 1990 and 1995

Capsular type	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
2	32	21	23	19	24	18
1/2	9	12	13	8	9	14
3	14	12	13	10	10	12
4	4	4	5	3	5	8
7	3	7	7	7	6	8
8	7	6	7	8	7	7