

THE PRESENCE OF BRUCELLA ABORTUS AGGLUTININS IN SWINE OF THE CENTRAL AREA

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IN an attempt to collect information on the possible presence of brucellosis among swine in Canada, a serological survey was carried out. The specimens being reported on are believed to be representative of at least a part of Ontario and Quebec. It is proposed to obtain additional samples in the future but it seems desirable at the present to indicate the results of those already tested.

Samples were collected by Officers of the Health of Animals Division and were taken at the time the animal was slaughtered, the free-flowing blood being collected in an appropriate tube and forwarded for serological examination. The standard antigen which is used in conducting the agglutination test of cattle serum was also used on the swine serum. The following table indicates the number of samples tested and the results.

PORCINE SERA TESTED—CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SERUM TITRE

NO. OF SPECIMENS	%	END POINT OF SERUM TITRE					
		1:10	1:20	1:40	1:80	1:160	1:320
876	80.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
142	13.0	+	—	—	—	—	—
52	4.8	+	+	—	—	—	—
18	1.7	+	+	+	—	—	—
TOTAL No. 1088	100						

+ = Complete agglutination
— = No agglutination.

In this rather limited survey no sample was found which possessed agglutinins within a range which would indicate infection and, if the samples are representative of those found in this part of the country, it would appear that brucellosis of swine is no problem.

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