



ISSN: 0975-833X

RESEARCH ARTICLE

HERBAL TREATMENT OF BLINDNESS IN CATTLE USING *SYZYGium CUMINI* AND *ANISOMELES MALABARICA*

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 25th September, 2016
Received in revised form
18th October, 2016
Accepted 14th November, 2016
Published online 30th December, 2016

ABSTRACT

Twenty seven cattle of different age and sex, including listeriosis cases, were clinically examined and found affected with partial to total loss of vision, with no specific common cause. Group A of 3 cattle kept as control and group B of 4 animals were treated with vitamin A and multi-vitamin injections daily. They showed no improvement. Group C of 20 cattle were given freshly ground *Syzygium cumini* and *Anisomeles malabarica* extract 2 drops intraocular and the remnant in oral, for 7 – 15 days. Recovery noticed in 19 animals at 15th day treatment.

Key words:

Cattle, Blindness, *Syzygium cumini*,
Anisomeles malabarica.

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Citation: Umadevi, U., Madhu Mathi, P., Saranya, K. and Umakanthan, T. 2016. "Herbal treatment of blindness in cattle using *Syzygium cumini* and *Anisomeles malabarica*", *International Journal of Current Research*, 8, (12), 43428-43429

INTRODUCTION

Though not much cared, blindness is a common condition persisting in cattle as a consequence of some previous prevailed systemic diseases or conditions. In this study is proposed a herbal remedy to improve the vision.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In 14 months period, 27 cattle of varying sex, age and history of previous affected primary illness (includes listeriosis cases) were identified and studied. Clinical examination revealed mild to total blindness in almost both the eyes, with no specific common etiological factor. Three, four and twenty cattle formed group A (control), B and C respectively. Group B of 4 cattle were given recommended dose of Advel-A (vitamin A – Morvel laboratories) and multi-vitamin injections daily for 15 days. Group C of 20 cattle were given extract of freshly ground *Syzygium cumini* 50 gm and *Anisomeles malabarica* 50 gm 2 drops intraocular and the remnant in oral, for 7 – 15 days.

RESULTS

Recovery noticed only in group C 19 animals at the 15th day treatment. Thus the herbal remedy was found 95% effective.

DISCUSSION

Good vision is an important factor in evaluating an animal's health and productivity. Though blindness in cattle seems not as a severe condition, it often accompanies even after the primary condition is cured. Thus its diagnosis as well as the treatment is yet to be attended with remembrance. Since vitamin A deficiency is the most prevalent cause of blindness (Audrey H. Ensminger et al., 1994), one group were given usual allopathic vitamin supplements. Another trial group is treated using *Syzygium cumini* seed which is rich in vitamin A and C (Confederation of Indian Industry), and *Anisomeles malabarica* used in siddha is an astringent, anti-hyperalgesic, anti-inflammatory and analgesic (Umberto Quattrocchi, 2012).

Summary

The combination of the two herbs in treating blindness in cattle proved more effective than usual allopathic treatment and hence proposed for successful practice.

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Acknowledgement

The authors thankfully acknowledge the kind support of cattle owners, siddha, traditional and unani practitioners, field veterinarians and para-veterinarians

Confederation of Indian Industry, Jambul *Syzygium cumini*. p.12

Umberto Quattrocchi, 2012. CRC World Dictionary of Medicinal and Poisonous Plants: Common Names, Scientific Names, Eponyms, Synonyms, and Etymology, CRC press, NW. p.306

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