

EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTS OF AN IMMUNOMODULATOR ADMINISTRATION IN WEANLING FOALS

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THESIS ABSTRACT

In this study, foals mainly stressed by weaning are treated with an immunomodulator, *parapoxvirus ovis* (PPVO), to prevent or reduce stress related clinical symptoms. In addition, changes in the level of acute phase proteins, serum amyloid a (SAA) and serum cortisol, and changes in the level of cellular inflammatory indicators, such as, interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) and interleukin-10 (IL-10), were evaluated to relate clinical findings of the study alongside suitability with field conditions. It was noted that there were positive effects in the daily weight gain in the group that received immunomodulators during the weaning period, as well as the body temperature was more controlled and the effects of stress on the foals decreased.

APPLICATION AREAS OF THE THESIS RESULTS

It was concluded that the application of immunomodulators during the weaning period was effective in preventing the economic losses that may occur as a result of stress in the foals and the application of immunomodulators can be preferred by the breeders in weaning protocol.

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES



KEY WORDS

- ✓ Foal
- ✓ Weaning
- ✓ Yearling
- ✓ Stress
- ✓ Immunomodulator

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