

Research
Paper

Study of skin infections caused by commercial cattle feed in crossbreed cows

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ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to find out remedy for commercial cattle feed induced skin infections in cross breed cows which reduce the production performance and quality of milk. By withdrawing the currently used commercial cattle feed and replacing it with the feed from another source, supplementing with good quality mineral mixture, applying a mixture of zink oxide and sulphur to the affected part and in severe cases, parentral antibiotics with liver tonics cured this skin condition.

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Key words : Skin infections, Commercial cattle feed, Cross breed cows

INTRODUCTION

Skin infections were repeatedly observed in field conditions among the crossbreed cattle which were fed on commercial cattle feed. The documentation of this condition and remedial measures undertaken are placed on record. ek bat bata de apko agar chalo ho gaye na phir bhagte

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A total of fifty crossbreed cows which were showing of skin infections were studied over a period of one year from April 2010 to March 2011 in the Veterinary Dispensary , salkani in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka State. The syptoms were characterized by parakeratosis, hyperkeratosis, ulcerations, alopecia, itching and myiasis of skin. The severity ranged from mild affections to severe dermatosis where animals were restless with continuous licking of the affected part. The above skin lesions were observed mainly in the lower part of both fore legs and hind legs, around the hooves, interdigital space, on the teat surface and udder.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It was observed that all the affected animals were

feed exclusively on the commercially available cattle feed produced either by private or public sector manufacturers. The cows were given paddy straw as a sole source of dry fodder and green fodder of nonspecific quality was given in less quantity.

To formulate treatment regimen, the affected animals were divided into five groups of 10 cows each. Different treatment schedules were tested in the experimental group for a period of 15 days.

Group I : The currently fed commercial cattle feed was completely withdrawn from the affected cows (n=10) and replaced with the cattle feed of the similar quality from a different manufacturer.

Group II : The currently fed commercial cattle feed was completely withdrawn from the affected cows (n=10) and replaced with the cattle feed of the similar quality from a different manufacturer. A mixture of 100ml neem oil, 10g zink oxide and 10g sulphur powder was smeared on the affected part twice a day for 10 days.

Group III : The currently fed commercial cattle feed was completely withdrawn from the affected cows (n=10) and replaced with the cattle feed of the similar quality from a different manufacturer. A mixture of 100 ml neem oil, 10g zink oxide and 10 g sulphur powder was smeared on the affected part twice a day for 10 days. An antibiotic preparation of long acting oxytetracycline containing