SCAVON VET Cream - A Herbal Formulation for the Treatment of Mange in Pigs

Rajeshwari, Y.B. 1, Suhas, Y.S. 2 and Bhagwat, V.G. 3

1 Associate Professor, Department of Livestock Production and Management, University of Agricultural Sciences, Veterinary College, Hebbal, Bangalore, India
2 Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University of Agricultural Sciences, Veterinary College, Hebbal, Bangalore, India
3 Executive, R&D Centre, The Himalaya Drug Company, Bangalore, India.

The Veterinarian 2004; 28(December): 16 & 21

INTRODUCTION

Pigs suffer from a variety of parasitic infections/infestations, among which the incidence of mange is high. Mange affecting pigs has become a major constraint in pig production in India. *Surcoptes scabi var suis* is the most important ectoparasite throughout the world and is confined mostly to the ears (Sheahan, 1975). It burrows into the epidermis and causes irritation and thickening of the affected parts of the body. Heavy infestation causes irritation and discomfort to the animal. Sometimes the lesions are red and pin pointed around the snout and eyelids, along the side of the neck and abdomen and inside the thighs, which is caused by demodectic mite. It is a well known fact that the traditional and indigenous veterinary remedies (Folklore treatment) are routinely practiced in rural areas.

The objective of the present study was to explore the therapeutic effect of SCAVON VET cream, a polyherbal formulation for mange in pigs.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ten pigs from a private farm in Bangalore were affected with mange and showed loss of hair, itching, irritation and thickening of skin near the body surface, along the neck, abdomen, mouth and face. Examination of skin scrapings revealed the presence of demodex and sarcoptes species of mites.

Among the affected pigs, 5 were treated with SCAVON VET cream (The Himalaya Drug Company, Bangalore, India). SCAVON VET cream contains mainly oils of *Linum usitatissimum*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Cinnamomum camphora*, *Ocimum sanctum*, *Acorus calamus* and powders of Tankana.

The cream was applied by gentle rubbing over the lesions, twice daily for 7 days, while the remaining 5 pigs served as untreated controls. During the course of treatment, the skin scrapings were collected and examined for mites on days 0, 7 and 14, after the first treatment. The observations were made from day 0 of treatment until 20 days of post-treatment. The
efficacy of medication was evaluated in terms of clinical signs and results of the examination of skin scrapings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The presence of mite was noticed in all the 10 pigs subjected for skin scraping examination at the time of enrolment in the study. The pigs treated with SCAVON VET cream showed absence of mites and skin lesions, 15 days after application. The skin was normal 20 days post-treatment with SCAVON VET cream. The untreated control animals showed presence of mites on skin scraping examination.

SCAVON VET cream is a polyherbal anti-inflammatory and dermatological cream evaluated extensively both in the laboratory and field conditions. *Ocimum sanctum*, *Acorus calamus* and *Eucalyptus globulus* are known to posses insecticidal, antiseptic and wound healing properties (Sathyavathi et al., 1976).

The exact mechanism by which SCAVON VET cream has shown to reduce the mite population is undergoing further research. Further, investigations in this regard are done keeping in mind the pharmacological activities of the individual ingredients of SCAVON VET cream.

SUMMARY
The results of this study suggest that SCAVON VET cream is clinically effective and safe in the treatment of mange in pigs.

REFERENCES


Sheahan, B.J. Patology of *Sarcoptes scabiei* infection in pigs. II. Histological, histochemical and ultrastructural changes at skin test sites. *Journal of Comparative Pathology* 1975; 85(1): 87-110.


-- 0 --