

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

Field ID: 22IMMS022011
Additional Identifier:
ZPP Accession Number: 11-022Tt
Species: *Tursiops truncatus*
Strand Date: 02-20-11
Strand Location: Biloxi, MS
Sex: male
Age Class: fetus
Necropsy Date: 02-20-11
Condition code: 3
Total Length: 97 cm
Weight:
Blubber Depth:
Body Condition:

Gross Necropsy: (available)

Slides/Tissues Received: 6 regular slides

Microscopic Findings: Extensive autolysis and large numbers of postmortem bacteria. Also few 3-4 μm ovoid (presumptive) yeasts, also considered postmortem overgrowth.

Slide 1:

Aorta, pulmonary artery and trachea: No significant findings (NSF)

Slide 2:

Heart: Epicardial adipocytes are variably sized.

Slide 3:

Ductus arteriosus (per gross report): NSF

Lung: Diffusely alveolar spaces are not expanded (fetal atelectasis). Scattered alveoli contain low numbers of amniotic squames; regionally numbers are moderate. Throughout are many large (postmortem) bacilli though there are also scattered smaller bacilli and coccobacilli.

Slide 4:

Urinary bladder and umbilical arteries; Non-glandular stomach; Intestine; and Testis: NSF

Slide 5:

Penis; kidney; fundic stomach: NSF

Slide 6:

Skeletal muscle; liver: NSF

Final Diagnosis:

1. Mild to moderate intra-alveolar squames

Comments:

Alveoli were uninflated meaning this animal never breathed and was thus a fetus at time of death. Low total length, at 97 cm, was consistent with a pre-term fetus. Abundant intra-alveolar squames, while less numerous than in some cases, were still indicative of in-utero fetal distress.

Reported By:

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