

**ZOOLOGICAL PATHOLOGY PROGRAM
STRANDED CETACEAN NECROPSY REPORT**

Field ID: 66IMMS031811
Additional Identifier:
ZPP Accession Number: 11-68Tt
Species: *Tursiops truncatus*
Strand Date: 03/18/2011
Strand Location: Biloxi, Mississippi
Sex: F
Age Class: neonate
Necropsy Date: 7/19/2011
Condition code: 3
Total Length: 99 cm
Weight: 10.5 kg
Blubber Depth:
Body Condition:

Gross Necropsy: Report available. Gross findings include (from report):
The ductus arteriosus and foramen ovale are patent and the internal and external aspects of the umbilicus are normal. There is a small umbilical stalk remnant. The lung is not inflated and representative portions sink on immersion in formalin. There is moderate enlargement of the spleen, which is homogenous red black on sectioned surface.

Slides/Tissues Received: 13 regular slides

Microscopic Findings:

Slide 1:

Marginal lymph node: No significant findings (NSF).

Spleen: There are few small lymphoid follicles.

Spinal cord: NSF

Thymus: Lobules are slightly small.

Slide 2:

Lung: The lung is diffusely atelectic with only a few open bronchioles and alveoli. Bronchioles and alveolar spaces diffusely contain large numbers of amniotic squamous cells, occasional accumulations of orange-brown globular material (meconium) and few macrophages.

Kidney: NSF

Slide 3:

Skeletal muscle: NSF

Larynx: NSF

Slide 4:

Heart: NSF

Slide 5:

Urinary bladder: NSF

Great vessels: NSF

Trachea: NSF

Slide 6:

Stomach: NSF

Adrenal gland: NSF

Slide 7:

Mucosal surface: NSF

Plexus: NSF

Slide 8:

Pancreas: NSF

Tongue: NSF

Adipose tissue:

Liver: NSF

Slide 9:

Small intestine: NSF

Colon: NSF

Slide 10:

Skin/blubber: NSF

Slide 11:

Skin/blubber: NSF

Slide 12:

Brain: NSF

Slide 13:

Brain: NSF

Final Diagnoses:

1. Lung: Atelectasis, fetal distress, and mild histiocytic pneumonia
2. Thymus: Mild hypoplasia

Ancillary Test Results:

None available at the time of report.

Comments:

The lung of this animal was diffusely atelectic and there were many aspirated amniotic squamous cells indicative of in utero fetal distress. The diffuse atelectasis indicates that the animal never breathed. Additionally there was some inflammation mixed with the squamous cells that could potentially be due to mild in utero infection. Bacterial infection is the top rule out and further testing for *Brucella* sp. is recommended if tissue is available.

Thymic lobules were slightly smaller than normal for a near term fetus therefore some degree of hypoplasia was present. There was marked autolysis in many tissue which greatly hindered analysis. A cause for the grossly reported splenic enlargement was not found.

Reported By:

Kathleen M. Colegrove-Calvey DVM, PhD, Dip ACVP
May 25, 2012