

GROSS NECROPSY REPORT

SPECIES *Tt* FIELD NUMBER 85IMMS040911 DATE July 19, 2011
LOCATION Waveland, MS LAT/LONG 30.26506/89.38956
SEX M TL 110.5 cm COND 4 WEIGHT N/E



85IMMS040911 *Tt*

GROSS NECROPSY

A neonatal 110.5 cm total length, male *Tursiops truncatus* is presented dead July 19, 2011 in very poor post mortem (code 4) and moderate body condition. The animal is moderately fleshed. Along the right aspect of the rostralateral aspect of the melon, there is a 3-4 cm long, transverse and slightly oblique black linear cutaneous furrow that tapers dorsally and is bound by a grey margin of skin. A smaller, more superficial and fainter furrow is noted at the midlevel of the right maxilla. The umbilicus is patent and appears normal internally and externally. The stomach contains approximately 3 ml of creamy tan yellow ingesta and there is no meconium within the rectum. The ductus arteriosus is patent. The lungs are inflated and representative samples float in formalin. Rostral hairs and follicles are discernible and there are no erupted teeth. There are no other apparent gross internal or external lesions.

**Internal Condition****CONCLUSIONS**

Autolysis hindered gross examination of this animal and precluded compiling neonatal data and evaluation of the carcass for evidence of possible human interactions. In contrast to other animals examined in the cohort, the stomach contained a small amount of milk or colostrum and the lungs were inflated indicating that this animal had been born alive, suckled and subsequently died. The cutaneous furrow is suggestive trauma, possibly a rake mark with some tissue response. The injury would likely not have been sufficient to have resulted in the demise of this animal; histopathology and ancillary diagnostic studies may be considered to further resolve a cause of death.

GROSS FINDINGS

1). Skin, melon: Furrow, moderate, linear, focal

TISSUE DISPOSITION

Lung for histopathology

Tissues, histopathology

Liver and stomach contents, biotoxins

Teeth and skin for life history

Brain, thymus, spleen, adrenal gland, liver and lung for virology

Morphometrics recorded

Photographs

Radiographs of head

Carcass archived frozen