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SOME SPERMATOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AKSARAY MALAKLI DOG (TURKISH MASTIFF)

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Introduction and aim. Malaklı (Turkish Mastiff) is a breed of livestock guardian dog, originating from Aksaray province, Turkey and it has been submitted for the registration recently. The name Malaklı derives from the anatomic structure of its cheeks, due to the breed's black, dropped, notable lips. There is no literature exits about Malaklı dog origin. Their alive weigth ranges between 50 and 150 kg, average life is 15 years. It is very good shepherd dog and although it seems to be sluggish, it is bold and active against environmental treat. Malaklı breed is a important local breed of turkey and conservation of genetic material is very substantial; since, there might be a necessity of recovering the lost genetic diversity and possessing important genetic information. Therefore, the pupose of this study was to conduct study of Malaklı's fresh semen characteristics and ability to semen collection.

Materials and methods. Semen samples were digitally manupulated from forty Malaklı male dog (2-6 years of age). Body weights were measured with a scale and libidos were recorded according to 0-5 evaluation scale. Besides, 1st fraction, 2nd fraction and 3rd fraction and total ejaculation time were recorded. The volume of 1st fraction, 2nd fraction and 3rd fraction with a graduated collection tubes and pH were determined with stripes. Collected semen samples were immediately assessed at the facility where dogs were housed. Sperm motility, sperm concentration, abnormal sperm rate and dead sperm rate were assessed with phase contrast microscobe.

Results. The mean body weights were 73.9 ± 12.62 ; 1st fraction, 2nd fraction, 3rd fraction and total ejaculation time were 393.8 ± 141.29 , 41.1 ± 24.75 , 463.6 ± 26.4 , 793.2 ± 32.60 seconds respectively. The mean average of first, second (sperm), third fraction volumes and pH values were recorded $(2.7\pm1.85,\ 2.4\pm1.27,\ 6.1\pm4.64$ and $5.9\pm0.25,\ 5.8\pm0.22,\ 5.8\pm0.23$ respectively). The mean libido sexualis was 4.76 ± 0.57 . Sperm motility, concentration, viability and abnormal sperm rates were $86.1\pm4.42,\ 320.3\pm95.97,\ 17.5\pm7.93$ and 15.06 ± 11.47 respectively.

Akcay and Tekin (2002) worked different age groups in Kangal sheepdogs (Karabash) and 1st fraction, 2nd fraction and 3rd fraction volumes and periods were determined (1). In all the age groups, total ejaculation periods (minutes) and total volume of ejaculate (ml) were higher than our values. Tosun and Uysal (2007) worked German Shepherd dog and sperm (2nd fraction) volume and pH were determined (2). Sperm volume and pH higher than our values. These differences may result from different breeds, materials and environmental conditions.

Conclusions

Some spermatological characterization of Aksaray Malaklı Shepherd Dog Breed (Turkish Mastiff) were identified for the first time through this study.

References

Akcay and Tekin., Turk J Vet Anim Sci, 26 (2002) 965-973.
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