

Interest of serum protein electrophoresis in rabbit pathology

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This study was realized with 457 rabbits of different breeds and ages subjected simultaneously to a blood electrophoresis and to most of the classical examinations: necropsy, parasitology, bacteriology, biochemistry, and sometimes histology.

Serum proteins were divided into albumine and α_1 , α_2 , β_1 , β_2 , β_3 and γ globulines. Through the deviation of one or several of these fractions from the normal value (obtained from 96 intact animals), it was possible to define a characteristic profile for intestinal coccidiosis, liver coccidiosis, cysticercosis, coryza or *Pasteurella* or *Bordetella* pneumonia, septicemia, colibacillar diarrhoea, non specific diarrhoea and atheromathosis.

In the case of intensive production systems this technique may contribute to establishing the diagnosis of a disease and to controlling the health of the herd. In the case of laboratory rabbitries, it may be useful in controlling the sanitary state of the animals which ought to be healthy before any experimentation, in following the health status of the animals during the experiments and in periodically controlling the general status of the « intact or protected » basal strains.
