



Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology

Bihar Veterinary College, Patna

Lecture on Post Mortem examination of Food Animals

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Postmortem inspection

DEFINITION

Post-mortem inspection refers to the systematic examination of dressed carcasses and their organs including blood in a hygienic manner by an expert veterinarian/ meat inspector immediately after slaughter

OBJECTIVE

To provide wholesome meat to the consumers

Infrastructures required for PM Examination

A. Facilities required for PM examination

- ▶ Good working conditions to provide carcasses to be delivered for inspection.
- ▶ Each inspection point should have well distributed lighting (540lux intensity).
- ▶ There should be sufficient sanitizing unit for equipments.
- ▶ Sterilizer operated at 82⁰ C for equipments.

B. Health and safety

- ▶ Care for handling, slaughter and dressing of animals
- ▶ They may act as potential source of zoonotic infections to staff.
- ▶ Avoid splashing of fluids.
- ▶ Wash hand frequently.
- ▶ Maintain high standard personal hygiene.

C. Carcasses identification

- ▶ Identification of carcass is very important for tracing of carcasses,
- ▶ All the carcasses must be identified and correlated with the antemortem examination for implementation of judgment.
- ▶ Dye used are chocolate brown, plastic tags, gelatin strips

Purpose to identify

- ▶ Diseases of **public health** significance
- ▶ Diseases of **animal health** significance
- ▶ Residues or contaminants in excess of the levels allowed by legislation
- ▶ Non-compliance with **microbiological criteria**
- ▶ **Visible lesions** that are relevant to animal welfare
- ▶ Evidence of animal welfare problems such as **beating or long standing untreated injuries**