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Gross Findings of Bovine Lymphoma Detected in Holstein -Friesian Dairy Cattle in Korea

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Although there are a lot of previous reports on the bovine leukemia virus (BLV) and enzootic bovine leukosis (EBL), pathologic researches are not much, especially on the tumor distribution in internal organs. Furthermore, there was a little pathologic report of the EBL in Korea. Therefore we were trying to survey lymphoma caused by BLV infection and to examine these cases grossly.

Samples were obtained from cattle necropsied at the Pathology division, National Veterinary Research and Quarantine Service, and from cattle slaughtered at the abattoir in the South Korea. All of the examined 30 cows were over three years old and female Holstein-Friesian cattle. There was no Korean native cattle case. Leukotic tissue was gray to pink, soft to firm, and bulged from the cut surface. In advanced cases, hemorrhage and/or necrosis could cause great variation in the appearance of involved structures. In many cases, there were multifocal to diffuse yellowish necrotic foci like pus in the center of the tumor mass; sometimes scattered

calcified regions. Neoplastic tissues were mostly located in intestine, heart, stomach, and diaphragm. In the abdominal cavities, large tumor masses sometimes reaching the size of over 20cm developed from a conglomeration of several neighboring lymph nodes.

In macroscopic observation on the 30 lymphoma case caused by BLV infection, tumor masses are pink to gray, soft to firm, and they bulges from the cut surface. In advanced case, hemorrhage and/or necrosis could cause great variation in the appearance of involved structures. Most frequently involved organs are lymph node, intestine, heart, and stomachs. This findings would be useful for clinical diagnosis of BLV infection

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Histopathological Characteristics of Bovine Lymphoma in Korea

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Many studies have been performed on the bovine leukemia since bovine leukemia virus (BLV) was detected in 1982 in Korea.