RINGWORM INFECTION BY MICROSPORON CANIS
IN A HORSE

by

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(with 2 figs.)

(31.VIII.1965)

In Europe *Microsporon canis* infection in horses was quite common some years ago (BROCQ-ROUSSEAU, URBAIN & BAROTTE, 1927; NEEFS & GILLAIN, 1931; BERGNER, 1942, among others). At present it seems to be rare: three isolates were made by AINSWORTH & AUSTWICK (GEORG, KAPLAN & CAMP, 1957) and there is a citation of this infection in horses by DVOŘák & OTČENÁŠEK (1964).

In Africa ringworm in horses by *M. canis* was found by CATANEI (1939).

In North America three cases are known (KAPLAN, GEORG & AJELLO, 1958).

In South America, especially in Brazil, the parasitism on horses by *M. canis* (LONDERO, FISCHMAN & RAMOS, 1963) is not quoted. Recently we diagnosed a *M. canis* infection on a horse in Brazil.

OBSERVATIONS

Clinical: A seven years old horse is raised in the suburban area of Santa Maria (Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil). It presented disseminated, dry crusty, circular isolated lesions from 0.5 to 5 cm in diameter on the right side, scattered over the neck, shoulder, flank, forearm and gasking (Fig. 1). The hairs that emerged through the crusts seemed to be normal. Slight traction allowed the easy removal of the crusts, the remainder being a scaling area of dry skin where the hairs were broken off one to two millimeters length.

Mycological: Direct examination of infected hairs dissected from the crusts disclosed few intrapillar hyphae, in KOH mounting (Fig. 2). Cultures made according to GEORG'S (1960) developed a characteristic strain of *M. canis*.
Epidemiological: Later on, three dogs and one cat raised in the same area of the horse and two children that used to play with the pets presented ringworm lesions.

From the children's and from the animals' lesions, a dermatophyte was found in direct examination and *M. canis* was isolated in pure culture.