challenge, was not significantly different among the 6 breeds. The vaccinated birds were partially protected against challenge with VVIBDV. The challenged birds were protected against clinical disease and death but not bursal damage and atrophy. The correlations of the five parameters with resistance to VVIBDV were inconsistent, indicating that nonimmunogenic factor(s) might play a critical role in IBD resistance. The study illustrated the importance of IBD resistance evaluation in both vaccinated and nonvaccinated chickens.

In another experiment, the protection induced by graded doses of classic-intermediate vaccine in both IBD resistant (Mandara) and susceptible (Gimmizah) local chickens was investigated. The immunogenicity of the tested doses was evaluated by measurement of the serological response and resistance to VVIBDV challenge 10 days post vaccination. Results showed that similar immune responses to the vaccine could be generated over a wide (100 fold) dose range. It was concluded that single vaccination, by eye drop route, with live intermediate vaccine (1x) could protect chickens against clinical disease and mortality. However, the immune responses generated by 1x, 10x or 100x vaccine doses did not protect against VVIBDV super infection of the bursa following challenge. This finding point out the highly invasive nature of the prevailing VVIBDV in Egypt. Further investigations are needed to evaluate the antigenic and immunogenic relatedness of the VVIBDV and commercially available vaccines.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This work was funded by the International Foundation of Science (IFS), Sweden. Under research grant No. B/904-1.

EFFECTICITY OF A BURSAL DISEASE - MAREK'S DISEASE VACCINE IN BROILERS ADMINISTERED THROUGH IN OVO VACCINATION

Tarcisio Villalobos, Alexandra Camacho, Carlos Zamora, Jose Elizondo, Rafael Fernández, Ricardo Bonilla

Merial Avian Global Enterprise, PO Drawer 2497, 1112 Airport Parkway, Gainesville, GA 30503

Two hundred twenty-five thousand, eighteen day-old embryonated commercial broiler eggs were injected in ovo with Bursal Disease - Marek’s Disease Vaccine Serotype 3 Live Virus (S-706 + HVT). The chickens were observed daily for forty-two days. Serological and production parameters were evaluated. The results were then compared against a control group (HVT in ovo + S-706 by spray at one day old). The results showed the safety and efficacy of in ovo vaccination with Bursal Disease - Marek’s Disease Vaccine Serotype 3, Live Virus was satisfactorily demonstrated in commercial broiler chickens.

MAREK'S DISEASE: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND CURRENT STATUS

R. L. WitterA and R. W. MorganB

AUSDA, Agricultural Research Service, Avian Disease and Oncology Laboratory, East Lansing, MI

BDepartment of Animal and Food Sciences, University of Delaware, Newark, DE

INTRODUCTION

In 1978, an international symposium was held in Berlin to address current concerns and research developments in Marek's disease. Twenty-two years later, in August 2000, the 6th symposium in this series was held in Montreal. This current symposium, organized by K.A. Schat, featured 56 presentations and 17 posters by prominent scientists in the field from many countries. The symposium was held in conjunction with the XXI World's Poultry Congress. Like its predecessors, this symposium provided an excellent snapshot of the state of the disease and documented many new developments, some of which will surely alter the course of future activity in the disease. This summary is based largely, but not entirely, on results presented in the symposium. No attempt is made to cover all the presentations. The