

Moxibustion Therapy for Bovine Diseases

1)

Torashige HOSAKA D.V.M. And Sanenori NAKAMA D.V.M., Ph.D.

1)

(Professor Emeritus, Yamaguchi University)

1. INTRODUCTION

Moxibustion therapy for cattle is easy and handy to practice and is cheap and effective to comparing to other treatments.

This therapy is to burn moxa (dried and crushed leaves of plant "Artemiae vulgaris") balls placed on the specific acupoint of the surface of the body. Heat by burning moxa stimulates the organs located under the controlled areas of acupoints, followed by improvement of "Qi" of organs, and of local blood flow rates, resulting recovery of diseases.

This therapy is effective in many cases of bovine diseases. It becomes more effective results when treated with herbs, feed, and or a simple medicaments. This therapy is well applicable to many diseases ordinary observed in a field.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Animal are restrained with ropes. Tip of a tail is tied with rope to prevent flipping moxa balls off. A bucket is filled with water for the fire prevention. Dry moxa (expose the leaves for 4-5 days in the sun shine) is crushed and made into 2gm size of balls. Miso (soy bean paste), Aloe jelly or Vaseline is used to secure and prevent burning animal skin from fired moxa balls. Matches or incense rod are used to fire moxa balls.

3. ACU-POINTS AND APPLICABLE SYMPTOMS

1) ACU-POINTS: Tenpei (Tiengping, GV-6), Gotanden (Houtantian, GV-6), Jinmon (shenmen, GV-4-1), Anjin (Anshen, GV-4), Hyakue (Baihui, GV-20B)

Application of these points shows as same efficacy as those of Neostigmine methylsulfate, Bethanechol chloride, Metoclopramide hydrochloride. Soon after application of moxibustion therapy, urination and stool are observed.

(1) APPLICATION OF MOXIBUSTION FOR DIGESTIVE PROBLEMS

Digestive problems such as impaction of rumen, acute bloat, chronic bloat, acute diarrhea, chronic diarrhea, abomasum displacement, intestinal paralysis after operation, colic, intestinal impaction, no appetite, ketosis, etc, are recovered after one application of moxibustion in case of those symptoms being not so severe. In the severe cases it is required the repeating moxibustion or treating together with medicaments.

In many cases, there are observed improving those symptoms which were no efficacy, shown after repeating treatment of digestive orally or intervenously. Moxibustion is applied not only for curing of diseases but also for promoting and recovering health, increasing milk production and body weight gains.

(2) ACU-POINT: Hyakue(Baihui, GV-20-B), Biki(Weigui, BL-27), Kibi(Guiwei, BL-27) Bikon(Weigen, GV-1-4), Denbumae(BL-29), Denbuato(BL-30)

(1) APPLICATION OF MOXIBUSTION FOR STERILITY

Moxibustion of these points is an effective treatment for animal with diseases of the reproductive systems, such as; ovarian dysfunction, ovarian atrophy, persistent corpus luteum, follicular cyst, repeat breeder, retained placenta, endometritis, prevention of muscularity of cows during the egg collection for embryo transfer, vaginal prolapse (in this case, add Kousou(Jiaochao, BL-35), to the above mentioned acu-points).

Recovery of these diseases is based on functional recovery of reproductive system followed by stimulation of ovary, uterus and vagina by the moxibustion.

(2) MOXIBUSTION THERAPY FOR UROTHIASIS

It is applied the same acu-points as described above (2); Hyakue(Baihui, GV-20-B), Biki(Weigui, BL-27), Kibi(Guiwei, BL-27), Bikon(Weigen, GV1-4), Denbumae(BL-29), Denbuato(BL-30).

It leads to release paralysis of, and to recover contraction and movement of sphincter vesicae, ultimately improvement of urination which leads to cure for disorders.

(3) MOXIBUSTION THERAPY FOR PARTURIENT PARALYSIS, MILK FEVER OR DOWNER SYNDROME

It is recommended to treat moxibustion immediately, in the case of difficulty to stand up after treatment of Calcium and Phosphate ions solution or other nutrient solution for parturient paralysis.

There are observed in many cases that moxibustion can help animals to stand up which liver functional test and appetite are normal but difficult to stand up.

In case of knuckling, moxa balls are applied on the place of knuckles.

Animals that show urination and stool soon after moxibustion treatment are expected to be a good recovery.

(4) MOXIBUSTION THERAPY FOR IMPROVEMENT OF REPRODUCTIVE PERFORMANCE

It is required to apply all Acu-points above mentioned Tenpei(Tiengping,GV-6), Gotanden(Houtantian,GV-6), Jinmon(Shenmon,GV-4-1),Anjin(Anshen,GV-4), Hyakue(Baihui,GV-20-B), Biki(Weigui,BL-27), Kibi(Guiwei,BL-27),Bikon(Weigen, GV-1-4),Denbumae(BL-29), Denbuato(BL-30).

For the first step, it is applied once a day for 3 consecutive days after parturition between 20 to 30 days. It is effective for improvement of health condition with good appetite after parturition, and for recovering of ovarian and uterine function.

For the second step, in case of an animal does not show an expecting estrus within 20 days after the last day of moxibustion, it is needed to treat moxibustion again. In case of unclear estrus or repeat breeder, it is available any time to apply moxibustion. It is also available to apply between an estrous cycle or two consecutive days soon after artificial insemination.

It is observed no case of abortion by means applying moxibustion to pregnant animals, so far.

RELEASE AND RELIEF FROM PARALYSIS CAUSED BY INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Acu-points: Daitui(Dazhui,GV-14),Fuumon(Fengmen,GV-20),Tanden(Tiantian,GV-13), Sandai(Santai,GV-11),Soki(Suqi,GV-8),Tenpei(Tienping,GV-6), Gotaqnden(Houtantian,GV-5), Jinmon(Shenmen,GV4-1), Anjin(Anshen GV-4), Hyakue(Baihui,GV-20B)

- (1) Release and relief from pharyngeal paralysis caused by Ibaragi disease and Blue tongue like disease of cattle.

The animal with difficulty of swallowing by pharyngeal paralysis were able to swallow soon after moxibustion, they drank water and eat feed (continuing for 2~3 hour). -3-

After one week consecutive treatment, the animal recovered its health condition.

(2) Release from oral paralysis caused by Tetanus

On pulling out retained placenta after having a difficult delivery, the animal may become in tetanus. Various treatments such as antibiotic, anti-tetanus serum and nutrient solutions, etc. have been done for 10 days. But still the animal kept its mouth closed, and soon after application of moxibustion the paralysis was released and cured.

(3) Therapy for chronic pneumonia

In spite of saving the life by antibiotic treatments for a pneumonia calf in a winter season, the farmer was in trouble because of remaining severe cough and poor growth. After application of moxibustion these symptoms disappeared and the calf recovered finally.

Acknowledgements: The authors thank Yuko TAKEUCHI, D.V.M., Ph.D. for translation into English from Japanese.



