

## **A study on causes of poultry carcasses condemnation in Nowshahr (north of Iran) poultry slaughters with histopathologic study of cases suspected to Marek's disease**

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The causes of broiler carcass condemnation were evaluated during November 2005, February, May and August of 2006 (one month in each season) in Nowshahr (north of Iran) poultry slaughters. Also the cases suspected to be Marek's disease were been studied histopathologically during these months. 2548 of the 380140 birds slaughtered over the four months were condemned. The main reason for condemnation was preslaughter mortality (dead on arrival). The overall average of dead on arrival was 0.172% of the total slaughtered birds. The other causes of condemnation were; cachexia, septicemia, air sac infection, ascites, bruising, second contamination, breast blisters and other causes. There were positive correlations between some reasons of carcass rejection and season. The rate of dead on arrival and breast blisters were very high in summer and the rate of ascitis was high in winter. The cases suspected to be Marek's disease were kept in 10% formalin buffer solution, tissue samples made by H&E staining method and evaluated histopathologically. 14 cases from 18 samples were positive for Marek's disease (0.5% of total condemnation).

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