

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE STUDY OF CARDIAC PATHOLOGY IN WILD BOAR (*Sus scrofa*)

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The heart of 156 wild boars of both sexes killed during an hunting season, in Piedmont and in Liguria (Italy), has been examined in a program regarding cardiac pathology. The following results have been obtained:

1) Endocardiosis of mitral valve: 15 (9.6%) hearts showed endocardial lesions similar to the ones described in the domestic pig although less severe and less frequent.

2) Non purulent myocarditis: 8 (5.1%) hearts showed small foci of non purulent cellular infiltration distributed in several histological sections of the myocardium.

3) *Sarcosporidium* spp. in the myocardial fibers

without signs of surrounding tissue reaction.

4) Fat tissue metaplasia: 2 (1.3%) hearts showed areas completely replaced by fat tissue in the wall of the left atrium.

5) Coronary arteriosclerosis: 10 (6.4%) hearts showed signs of arteriosclerosis of the intramural coronary arteries, characterized by intimal proliferation of muscle and elastic fibers.

In conclusion we may state that the observed lesions are morphologically similar to the ones described in the domestic pigs although less severe and less frequent.