

**SEROLOGIC SURVEY OF LEPTOSPIROSIS IN PAMPAS DEER FROM
UBERLÂNDIA**

*(INQUÉRITO SOROLÓGICO PARA LEPTOSPIROSE EM VEADOS-CAMPEIROS DE
UBERLÂNDIA)*

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Serum samples from seven free-living pampas deer (*Ozotoceros bezoarticus*) from the serum samples collection of the Laboratório de Ensino e Pesquisa em Animais Silvestres (LAPAS) of the Universidade Federal de Uberlândia (UFU) were tested using the Microscopic Agglutination Test (MAT). The test was performed in the laboratory of infectious diseases of the UFU, using as antigens the following serovars Australis, Autumnalis, Bataviae, Brastilava, Canicola, Copenhageni, Grippytyphosa, Hardjo, Hebdomadis, Icterohaemorrhagiae, Pomona, Pyrogenes, Tarassovi and Wolffi. From all samples tested, only one was positive to serovar Copenhageni (titer 100). Mathias, Girio and Duarte (1999) reported the occurrence of *O. bezoarticus* positive to the serovars Hardjo, Wolffi and Mini, differing from those found in this study. Girio and collaborators (2004) reported that four of 41 animals of this species were reagents to MAT and the serovars Wolffi, Mini and Hardjo. In general, the percentages of *Ozotoceros bezoarticus* positive for antileptospiras antibodies found in the literature are low, which may be explained by the habits of this species. According to Rodrigues (1996), *O. bezoarticus* are generally solitary animals thus reducing the transmission chances. Moreover, their food preference is for flowers and herbs while grasses are consumed sporadically (RODRIGUES, 1996). Therefore, they do not usually feed in pastures occupied by livestock, which may be infected. In conclusion, understanding the occurrence of leptospirosis in wildlife is critical to assess the risks that the disease can pose to the conservation of several species and ensure its long-term survival.

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