

Table 1. World species of *Grahamisia* Delucchi

Species	Distribution
<i>Grahamisia malabarensis</i> Narendran & Mini	India: Kerala
<i>Grahamisia dictyodroma</i> Xiao & Huang	China: Hubei Province
<i>Grahamisia albomaculata</i> (Hedqvist)	W. Africa: Angola
<i>Grahamisia saetosa</i> Delucchi	Africa: Congo, Uganda, Tanzania
<i>Grahamisia striata</i> Hedqvist	S. Africa: Cape Prov., Somerset
<i>Grahamisia maculata</i> (Hedqvist)	W. Africa: Angola
<i>Grahamisia straminea</i> Hedqvist	Central Africa: Congo.

on club and size larger, 1.8-1.9mm.

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VET BRIEF

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POLYTHENE- BEZOAR IN BARKING DEER (*MUNTIACUS MUNTIJAK*)

S.K. Mittal, A.B. Shrivastav and Pradeep Shrivastav

Department of Wildlife Health and Management, College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalyaya, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

Bezoar means a concretion found in the alimentary canal of an animal, especially ruminants and occasionally man. According to the nature of constituents, there are various types of bezoar forming the ball like structure and known as trichobezoar (hairball), trichophytobezoar (hair & vegetable fiber) and phytobezoar (plant fiber). A synthetic bezoar is known as polythene-bazoar. There are various types of bezoar observed in the gastrointestinal tract of different species of animals including wild herbivores (Rao & Acharjyo, 1995; Sharma & Chauhan, 1979).

An adult female Barking Deer *Muntiacus muntjak* of the Gwalior Zoo showed weakness of both hind legs with staggering gait. The deer was dewormed done soon after symptoms were observed and was given supportive treatment by injections of neurobion, calcium and tonophos along with adequate proteins, carbohydrates and minerals in the feed. The animal showed little improvement with little feed intake and defecation. After a week, the deer again showed weakness, staggering gait and dragging of both hind limbs. The animal was given a course of antibiotic with supportive treatment. The animal recovered to some extent but was unable to bear the body weight on her hind legs and soon died.

Detailed post-mortem examination of the carcass showed emaciation, ascitis, hydropericardium and oedema in throat region. The rumen was completely filled with a large mass of polythene-bezoar with knotted appearance. The bezoar consisted of entangled polythene bags, mineral deposits and ingested food. It was 34cm in length and 278g in weight. Impression smears prepared from liver, lungs and heart blood revealed no organism of pathological significance. The polythene-bezoar occupied substantial space in the rumen that had resulted in low intake of food for considerable time and may have led to deficiencies of essential vitamins and minerals and gradual increase in weakness and death of the animal.

Presence of foreign bodies in the fore stomach of deer is not uncommon (Acharjyo & Nayak, 1979; Rao & Acharjyo, 1995). Sharma and Chauhan (1979) reported the occurrence of phytozoar in the reticulum of a Barking Deer. The occurrence of polythene-bezoar was rare in wild herbivores but now their incidences are increasing particularly in captive animals due to the excessive use of polythene bags to carry food material and non-judicial discard of used bags with leftover food inside the enclosures by visitors.

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