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ANAEMIA IN A CINEREUS VULTURE *AEGYPIUS MONACHUS* - A CASE REPORT

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A young Cinereus Vulture *Aegypius monachus* weighing about 6.75kg was brought from Akhnoor (J&K) to Manda Zoo. A veterinary medical team from Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, SKUAST-J visited the zoo to monitor the health status of the bird. The total length (from forehead to feet) was 88cm, wing to wing length was 240cm and the length of the beak was 8cm. On physical examination the bird appeared weak but was found to feed normally. In order to check for condition of anaemia an aliquot of 1ml blood was collected from wing vein in a dry vial containing 10% Ethylene Diamine Tetra Acetic acid (EDTA) and blood smears were made for routine haematology.

Literatures concerning the normal hematological profiles of raptorial birds are scare and limited (Elliott *et al.* 1974; Cooper, 1975). However, Ivins *et al.* (1986) reported average haematological values of selected raptors while Villegas *et al.* (2002) recently documented the blood chemistry and haematocrit of Cinereous Vulture. Based on this haematological profile the Cinereous Vulture at Manda Zoo with a packed cell volume of only 19% was found to be anaemic (see Table). Oral mineral mixture (Agrimin forte powder Glaxo) was recommended at the dose of 200mg daily. After two weeks the vulture was found to be active, alert and feeding normally. The haematological profile was reevaluated and the haemogram had improved with a packed cell volume of 23% well within the normal range.

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***Table 1. Haemotological Profile (Pre-treatment & Post-treatment) of* Aegypius monachus**

Haematological Profile	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment (14th Day)	Normal Haemogram
Packed Cell Volume (%)	19	23	24 - 52
Haemoglobin (g/dl)	6	10.20	10 - 19
Total Erythrocyte Count x 10^6/mm^3	1.8	2.5	2.0 - 2.8
Total Leukocyte Count x 10^3/mm^3	20	19.8	7 - 46
Differential leukocyte Count			
a) Heterophils x 10^3/mm^3	5	10.6	5 - 39
b) Lymphocytes x 10^3/mm^3	11	5.9	1.5 - 13.7
c) Monocytes x 10^3/mm^3	2	2.9	0 - 5.1
d) Eosinophils x 10^3/mm^3	1.4	-	0 - 0.38
e) Basophils /mm^3	-	296	0 - 380

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