

SEROLOGICAL RESPONSE OF DROMEDARY CAMELS VACCINATED WITH *Brucella abortus* RB51 AND *Brucella melitensis* REV 1 VACCINES

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ABSTRACT

A vaccination experiment was conducted in dromedary camels at CVRL. Six adult dromedaries received 2 ml of the *Brucella abortus* vaccine RB51 subcutaneously and 6 camels 1ml of the *B. melitensis* Rev 1. Four different serological tests were conducted to follow the seroconversion post vaccination. None of the 6 dromedaries vaccinated with RB51 produced antibodies, measured for 1 year, due to lack of lipopolysaccharide O - side chains in the vaccine. However, antibodies appeared in all 6 dromedaries 30 days post vaccination with *B. melitensis* Rev 1, which declined slowly over time. Three hundred thirty days post vaccination ELISA antibodies were still present in 5 of the 6 dromedaries as well as RBT, SAT and CFT antibodies in some of them. This is a disadvantage as all serological methods for the diagnosis of brucellosis cannot differentiate between vaccine or natural infection titres.

Key words: Antibodies, *Brucella abortus* RB51, *Brucella melitensis*, serology, vaccination against brucellosis