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Contents

Editorial

Waner, T.	1
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Review articles

Recommendations for Medical Device Implantation in Swine Swindle, M.M., Smith, A.C. and Helke, K.	3
Canine Monocytic Ehrlichiosis – From Pathology to Clinical Manifestations Waner, T. and Harrus, S.	12

Research articles

Prevention of Perioperative Hypothermia in Anesthetized Dogs Using a Novel Computerized Body Temperature Regulation System Epstein, A., Avni, G., Laset, G. and Aroch, I.	19
Epidemiological, Clinical and Hematological Findings in Feline High Rise Syndrome in Israel: A Retrospective Case-Controlled Study of 107 Cats Merbl, Y., Milgram, J., Moed, Y., Bibring, U., Peery, D. and Aroch, I.	28
Seroprevalence of Hypodermosis in Cattle in Nigde Province of Turkey by Comparison of Commercial and Indirect-ELISA Methods Karatepe, M., Simsek, S., Karatepe, B., Cayvaz, M., Sevgili, M. and Balkaya, I.	38
Molecular Evolutionary Analysis of Classical Swine Fever Virus Zhang, H., Wang, Y.H., Wu, Z.J., and Cui, Y.D.	43
Outer Membrane Protein A (OmpA) Conferred Immunoprotection against <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> Infection in Mice Hu R., Fan, Z.Y., Zhang, H., Tong, C.Y., Chi, J.Q., Wang, N., Li, R.T., Chen, L., Ding, Z.F., Chen, L.X., Tang, W., Zhou, X., Pu, L.J., Zhu, Z.B. and Cui, Y.D.	48
Effect of Melamine in the Absence and Presence of Cyanuric Acid on Ultrastructure of Visceral Organs in Male Mice Yin, R.H., Wang, X., Wang, X.Z., Bai, W.L., Yin, R.L., Wu, C.D., Li, C., Liu, J., Liu, B.S. and He, J.B.	56

Case report

Excision Arthroplasty for Treatment of a Chronic Traumatic Medial Scapulohumeral Joint Luxation in a Dog Hodik, V., Golovanov, A. and Ranen E.	65
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Front Cover: **ABYSSINIAN CAT**

There are a number of versions regarding the origin of the Abyssinian breed of cats, however its actual origin is unknown. The most popular account is that the cat originated from the ancient temple cats of Egypt. The Abyssinian breed is considered to be a few thousand years old resembling cats in ancient Egyptian paintings and sculptures. The mother of the modern Abyssinian cat is believed to be "Zula" which was brought to England from Alexandria by a British soldier in 1886. In 1896 the Abyssinian breed was officially recognized in England.

The Abyssinian breed is one of the most popular breeds of shorthair cats in the USA. There are four colors of cats: Ruddy, Sorrel, Blue and Fawn. They have a special distinctive "ticked" hair coat. They are medium sized with slender legs and a fine bone structure. The tail is long tapering, to a point.

Their temperament is intelligent, exploring and active.