

Bovine papular stomatitis

Bovine papular stomatitis is a disease caused by a virus . It occurs worldwide in cattle as a reddish, raised, sometimes ulcerative lesions on the lips, muzzle, and in the mouth. It usually occurs before the age of two years. Clinically, the disease is mild, but its importance lies in the need to differentiate it from foot-and-mouth disease. There have been reports of both lesions on the hands of milkers and similar infections in sheep and goats, as well as humans.

Causes

The virus of the family *Poxviridae* and the genus *Parapoxvirus*.

Transmission

The virus is spread by direct contact with infected cattle or the saliva from an infected animal. People become infected by handling the lesions in an infected animal with out gloves, allowing the virus to enter through broken skin or an abrasion.

The symptoms in humans

Lesions are raised, red, and painful and then progress to a scabby lesion of variable size, and tend to heal slowly over 1 -2 months.

Control

There are no vaccines available and treatment is not necessary as the lesions resolve spontaneously.