Fw: Submission Confirmation

From: Safitri Erma (rma_fispro@yahoo.com)

samik_s3@yahoo.co.id To:

Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 05:29 PM GMT+7

On Tuesday, October 25, 2016 5:26 PM, Veterinary World <vetworld@ejmanager.com> wrote:

Dear Erma Safitri,

Your submission entitled Mycotoxin Binders Potential On Histological Of Ovary Mice Exposed By Zearalenon (Manuscript Number: VETWORLD-2016-10-554) has been received by Veterinary World.

You could follow status of your manuscript by login to your author account at www.ejmanager.com.

Thank you for submitting your work to our journal.

Best regards,

Editor

Veterinary World

http://www.veterinaryworld.org

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- 2. Veterinary World is indexed in PubMed and PubMed Central. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/101504872
- 3. A new, prestigious journal, International Journal of One Health (www.onehealthjournal.org) was launched in early 2015 by Veterinary World.

Article Revision Letter for Authors - (VETWORLD-2016-10-554)

From: Veterinary World (vetworld@ejmanager.com)

To: rma_fispro@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, January 6, 2017 at 05:44 PM GMT+7

Dear Erma Safitri.

Your manuscript entitled \"Mycotoxin Binders Potential On Histological Of Ovary Mice Exposed By Zearalenon\" (Ms.Nr. VETWORLD-2016-10-554) was reviewed by reviewers of the Veterinary World. As initial decision, your manuscript was found interesting but some revisions have to be made before it can reach a publishable value. Please refer comments given at bottom.

You should send your revised manuscript via the online system of ScopeMed on my.ejmanager.com.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Anjum Sherasiya Editor-Veterinary World Star, Gulshan Park, NH-8A, Chandrapur Road, Wankaner 363621 Dist. Morbi (Gujarat) INDIA

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COMMENTS for Authors:

EDITORIAL COMMENTS:

- Highlight all corrections/additions in red color font in revised manuscript.
- Please answer all the comments below point-by-point in an accompanying response letter to your revised submission and include your responses at appropriate paragraphs in the revised word file.
- Include all authors name, affiliation and email address in revised word file. Please check latest article from www.veterinaryworld.org for format of this section.
- All journal names in references must be as per standard journal abbreviation. We do not allow full name or non-standardised abbreviation. You can check the abbreviation at

http://images.webofknowledge.com/WOK46/help/WOS/T_abrvjt.html, www.journalseek.net etc.

- Include authors\' contributions if you have not added.
- Include Acknowledgements along with source of fund for this study if you have not included.
- If you will not revise strictly as per suggestion then there will be chance of rejection. So, revise carefully. If you have any query then please mention it in revision letter or email to Editor-in-Chief.

Reviewers\' comments:

Overview: The design of the manuscript is correct and it presents a number of data. However, it needs extensive reorganization before it is fit to be published.

Major comments:

- 1. It is not clear the type of the mycotoxin binder used in the study. All the data of the tested compounds must be detailed. Without this information, the results could not be evaluated.
- 2. It is not clear why the concentrations of each agent were chosen. Please, justify.
- 3. The ethical approval and the source of the animals used in the study must be mentioned.
- 4. The histopathological investigation only is not enough to give an accurate judgment of the efficacy of mycotoxin binder. At least, analysis of the female hormonal profile must be done in this study.
- 5. Where are the results of ovarian caspase 9 expression??
- 6. The incorporation of results and discussion into one section made a very confusing data. I would highly recommend the separation of the results and discussion into two sections. This way the results will be more clarified and their explanations will be highlighted.

- 7. Photomicrograph quality. Figures are rather very poor quality and are difficult to interpret. Also, arrows indicating the lesion are missed. It must be re-submitted in better quality forms. In addition, a scoring system for the lesion must be done.
- 8. The text is full of syntactical and verbal mistakes. English grammar is rather weak and truly needs to be carefully revised. Therefore English revision is highly recommended. Specific comments:

Abstract:

- This part needs more concise and precise description. So, please refine the \"Abstract\" by shortly describe the experimental design, highlights results and give a clear conclusion.
- zearalenone not zearaleneon . Please correct in all the manuscript or use the abbreviation ZEN .
- Control group is usually abbreviated as (C) not (K). Please replace.

Material and methods

- Chemical: Please provide sources of all chemicals used (company, city, and country of origin).
- Animals: many important data are missing like the age of rats, average mean of weight not range, the exact diet formula and bedding.
- Methods:
- Many important data are missing like:
- Route of administration of each treatment.
- Experimental period.
- Type of anesthetic agent used.
- A number of important instrumentation information is missing. Please provide (model of instrument, city, and country of origin).
- The references of both histopathological and statistical analysis should be mentioned.
- In the statistics section, you should first test whether your data are normally distributed in order to apply a parametric test (ANOVA). Please perform this evaluation.

Results and discussion

- This part was too confused to get the point and findings of your experiment. Please, discuss all the work had been done and findings in this experiment and refine this section.

Decision: HUGE revision must be done.

Revised Article Submission

From: Veterinary World (vetworld@ejmanager.com)

To: rma_fispro@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, February 3, 2017 at 03:34 AM GMT+7

Feb 02, 2017

Dear Erma Safitri,

Your REVISED ARTICLE entitled 'Mycotoxin Binders Potential On Histological Of Ovary Mice Exposed By Zearalenone' has been received by Veterinary World.

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Thank you for submitting your REVISED version of your article.

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Notification for Status Change of your Article

From: Veterinary World (vetworld@ejmanager.com)

To: rma_fispro@yahoo.com

Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 at 12:06 PM GMT+7

Dear Erma Safitri.

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Re: Notification for Status Change of your Article

From: Safitri Erma (rma_fispro@yahoo.com)

To: vetworld@ejmanager.com; editorveterinaryworld@gmail.com

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 03:55 PM GMT+7

On Friday, February 10, 2017 12:06 PM, Veterinary World <vetworld@ejmanager.com> wrote:

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Fig 1 C-.jpg 1MB



Fig 1 T1.jpg 977.5kB



Fw: Fee to Veterinary World

From: Safitri Erma (rma_fispro@yahoo.com)

To: editorveterinaryworld@gmail.com; vetworld@ejmanager.com

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 03:56 PM GMT+7

On Wednesday, February 15, 2017 3:46 PM, "service@intl.paypal.com" <service@intl.paypal.com> wrote:

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To: samik_s3@yahoo.co.id

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 03:49 PM GMT+7

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Tidak ada yang diberikan

Informasi pengiriman:

ERMA SAFITRI
Sukolilo Makmur 3 No 24 Surabaya
rma_fispro@yahoo.com
Surabaya, JAWA TIMUR
60111
Indonesia

Metode pengiriman:

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Decision Letter to Authors - Acceptance - (VETWORLD-2016-10-554)

From: Veterinary World (vetworld@ejmanager.com)

To: rma_fispro@yahoo.com

Date: Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 06:13 PM GMT+7

Dear Abdul Samik. Erma Safitri

I am pleased to inform you that your manuscript titled as "Mycotoxin Binders Potential On Histological Of Ovary Mice Exposed By Zearalenone" (Manuscript Number: VETWORLD-2016-10-554 is accepted for publication in the Veterinary World.

- We have received the revised manuscript as per reviewers suggestions.
- We have received the payment.
- You will get the signed acceptance letter within 2 days by an email. Please check your inbox/spam folder for the same.

NEWS: A new, prestigious journal, International Journal of One Health (www.onehealthjournal.org) was launched in early 2015 by Veterinary World.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Anjum Sherasiya Editor-Veterinary World Star, Gulshan Park, NH-8A, Chandrapur Road, Wankaner 363621 Dist. Morbi (Gujarat) INDIA

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Proof for corrections

From: Veterinary World - Publisher (veterinaryworldpublisher@gmail.com)

To: samik_s3@yahoo.co.id; rma_fispro@yahoo.com

Cc: editorveterinaryworld@gmail.com

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 02:28 PM GMT+7

Dear Authors.

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Erma Safitri.docx 2.8MB

Dear Corresponding author/co-authors,

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Technical/Copyediting by Sinjore – 14/03/2017

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Mycotoxin binders potential on histological of ovary mice exposed by zearalenone

Abdul Samik¹ and Erma Safitri^{1,2}

1. Department of Veterinary Reproduction, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Universitas

Airlangga, Airlangga, Indonesia; 2. Stem Cells Research Division of Institute Tropical

Disease, Universitas Airlangga, Airlangga, Indonesia.

Corresponding author: Erma Safitri, e-mail: rma fispro@yahoo.com,

Co-author: AS: samik s3@yahoo.co.id

Received: 25-10-2016, Accepted: 16-02-2017, Published online: ***

doi: *** How to cite this article: Samik A, Safitri E (2017) Mycotoxin binders potential on

histological of ovary mice exposed by zearalenone, *Veterinary World*, 10(3): 0-0.

Abstract

Aim: This study was conducted to examine the potential of mycotoxin binder in ceasing

zearalenone (ZEN) effect on mice reproduction. ZEN mycotoxin can induce reactive

oxygen species that may cause damage and cell death. ZEN is estrogenic so that it may

affect the reproductive organs failure.

Materials and Methods: Mycotoxin binder administration to female mice exposed to ZEN

was aimed to count the number of primary follicles, secondary follicles, tertiary follicles, de

Graaf's follicles, and the corpus luteum (CL). Negative control group (C) was not exposed

to ZEN and without the administration of mycotoxin binders, while positive control group (C+) was exposed to 0.1 mg/mouse/day ZEN and without the provision of mycotoxin binders. Treatment groups (T1, T2, T3) were exposed to 0.1 mg/mouse/day ZEN and

mycotoxin binders 0.5; 1; 2 mg/BW/day.

Results: ZEN and mycotoxin binders administration was conducted for 10 days. The

number of primary follicles, secondary, tertiary, de Graaf's follicles and CL in negative

control (C-) was 14.2 ± 1.36 , 11.2 ± 0.28 , 6.5 ± 0.53 , 7.5 ± 0.74 , and 2.3 ± 0.35 . The number in

positive control (C+) group was as follows 7.1 ± 0.12 , 3.7 ± 1.17 , 3.8 ± 1.21 , 1.5 ± 0.62 , and

 2.3 ± 0.34 . Results in treatment 1 (T1) were as follows 6.2 ± 0.16 , 5.2 ± 0.16 , 3.6 ± 0.16 ,

 2.6 ± 0.19 , and 2.6 ± 0.10 ; in treatment 2 (T2) 7.8 ± 0.28 , 5.8 ± 0.53 , 3.7 ± 0.26 , 2.7 ± 0.26 , and

 2.5 ± 0.10 ; and in treatment 3 (T3) 8.4 ± 0.34 , 8.4 ± 0.34 , 4.6 ± 0.34 , 4.5 ± 1.01 , and 3.4 ± 0.23 .

Conclusion: The number of follicles and CL more in line with increasing doses of

mycotoxin binders. Required more than 2 mg/mouse/day mycotoxin binders to inhibit the

effects of ZEN so that its can maintain the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle,

tertiary follicle, the de Graaf's follicle, and the number of CL in the ovary of ZEN-exposed

female mice (Mus musculus).

Keywords: corpus luteum, follicles, mycotoxin binders, zearalenone.

<H1>Introduction

Folliculogenesis in an animal species is affecting the development of oocytes (egg cells).

The number of follicles during estrus cycle is influenced by factors such as animal species,

reproductive phase, circumstances, age, mother, and genetic. Folliculogenesis includes

changes in the size and number of granulosa cells (GCs), theca cell growth, egg cells

position which is surrounded by cumulus oophorus cells, and increased volume of follicular

cavity fluid [1]. Effects of estrogen on ovarian organ may increase the growth of granulosa and cumulus oophorus cells in reaching egg cells maturation [2].

At molecular level, hyperestrogenism conditions caused by zearalenone (ZEN) from the fungus *Fusarium graminearum* may lead to oxidative stress and induce apoptosis through intrinsic pathway in the mitochondria. The intrinsic pathway involves mitochondrial function affected by oxidative stress by releasing protein and activating caspase release into the cytosol. Caspase is a protease with a capacity to break down proteins. Oxidative stress makes cytochrome be released out of the mitochondria and will bind apoptotic protease activating factor 1 and procaspase 9 to activate Caspase 9 [3]. Caspase 9, which acts as the apoptosis initiator, will be dimerized and trigger a feedback by inhibiting Bcl-2 release and binds procaspase 3 to activate Caspase 3. Caspase 3 acts as executor, helping endonuclease and cytoplasmic protease activation that may fragment the nuclear DNA and degrade protein cytosol. The final result in fragmentation process is the formation of apoptotic bodies containing intracellular organelles and express phosphatidylserine that will trigger phagocytosis [3,4].

Mycotoxin binders act effectively in binding mycotoxins in the feed. Mycotoxin binders contain material that with high potential to be absorbed, including aluminosilicate activated carbon, cellulose, polysaccharides, peptidoglycan, and synthetic polymers such as cholestyramine, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and their derivatives [5]. The action mechanism of mycotoxin binders by eliminating methyl groups on ZEN's chemical structure [6]. The basic materials of mycotoxin binders are in the form of charcoal compound, biotin, thiamine, aluminosilicate, and vitamins C and E which are antioxidants to decrease the effects of exposure to mycotoxins residues before being metabolized by the body.

The objective of this study was to determine the effect of mycotoxin binders on the number

of primordial follicle cells, primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the corpus luteum (CL) in mice (*Mus musculus*) exposed to ZEN. This mycotoxin binders potential may be a solution to overcome problems of estrus cycle disorders due to ZEN which is produced by the fungus *F. graminearum* and to improve livestock productivity by controlling mycotoxins from the feed.

<H1>Materials and Methods

<H2>Ethical approval

This study was approved by ethical committee vide Ethical Clearance No: 309-KE Animal Care and use Committee, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Airlangga University.

<H2>Experimental

This study was an experimental laboratory using a completely randomized design. Data were statistically analyzed using SPSS 15 for Windows XP with the level of significance 0.05 (p=0.05) and the confidence level 99% (α=0.01). Steps of comparative hypothesis tests are as follows: Kolmogorov–Smirnov for normality test when the data normal distribution than continued with one-way ANOVA test and if significant difference (p<0.05) was found; the analysis was followed with Fisher's least significant difference test. A total of 20 female mice (*M. musculus*) from animal treatment laboratory, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Airlangga University, were used in this study. The laboratory animals used in this study were healthy female mice, 8-10 week-old and each 20-30 g weight. Healthy condition was determined by their active movement. Mice kept in an individual plastic cage in laboratory for Experimental Animal of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Universitas Airlangga with adequate ventilation. They were divided into five treatments in which each treatment was subjected to 4 replications as follows: negative control group (C), not exposed to ZEN

(Biotech Co. Ltd., Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China) and without being administered with mycotoxin binders; positive control group (C+), exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day without receiving mycotoxin binders; treatment group 1 (T1) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and the provision of mycotoxin binders (Impextraco Ltd, Bangkok, Thailand) 0.5 mg/mouse/day; treatment group 2 (T2) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and receiving mycotoxin binders dose of 1 mg/mouse/day; the treatment group 3 (T3) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and mycotoxin binders in a dose of 2 mg/mouse/day. Variables were observed in this study and were the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the CL. Selection of mycotoxin binders concentration was based on previous research [5].

<H2>Procedures for mycotoxin binders and ZEN administration

Mycotoxin binders were administered orally to the female mice in doses of 0 mg/mouse/day, 0.5 mg/mouse/day, 1 mg/mouse/day, 2 mg/mouse/day, and in each treatment ZEN was added in a dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day. The administration was done orally with a gastric sonde needle (Kent Scientific Co, Connecticut, USA) and repeatedly done until the 10th day. Gastric sonde needle in this research is instrument model of feeding needle for animal laboratory, Connecticut, USA.

<H2>Animal surgical procedures and sampling

After the dislocation of the cervical Os, surgery was performed on day 15. Disinfection was done with 70% alcohol followed by quick surgery to take out the ovaries. The ovaries were extracted and separated from the surrounding tissue, then stored in buoin solution with 75 ml saturated picric acid, 25 ml 40% formalin, and 5 ml glacial acetic acid for making preparations for immunohistochemistry and histology [7].

<H2>Observations of ovarian histology with hematoxylin-eosin staining [7]

Mice ovaries were fixed with buoin solution. The process was followed with hematoxylin and eosin staining. The staining was begun with soaking the object glass into xylol I and xylol II, each for 2 min, followed by immersion in 95%, 90%, 80%, 70% and 50% absolute (100%) alcohol respectively for 2 min. Then, the glass objects were put into hematoxylin staining for 7 min and washed with running water to remove the unabsorbed excess dye. Object glasses were re-immersed in eosin staining for 3 min and washed again with distilled water. The preparations were then soaked in 50%, 70%, 85%, 90%, 100%, 100%, alcohol, xylol I, and xylol II respectively for 2 min. Chemical was used in this study from Biotech Co. Ltd., Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China.

<H1>Results

Ovarian histological feature reading was performed on all preparations microscopically using quantitative methods for the number of the primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the CL. Ovarian Caspase 9 expression reading was performed on all preparations microscopically using scoring method [7]. The results of counting scoring obtained were subsequently averaged and then processed using SPSS 20 for windows. The means and standard deviations of the observations of the number of follicles, the CL and Caspase 9 are presented in Table-1.

Data obtained normal distribution than continued with ANOVA test. Statistical test results on the number of the primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, and the de Graaf's follicle showed significant differences (p<0.05) between C- and C+, T1, T2 and T3. This indicates that the dose of 2 mg/head/day of mycotoxin binders can not inhibit the effects ZEN thus require more doses of mycotoxin binders to be able to inhibit the effects ZEN.

The number of CL showed results was not significantly different (p>0.05) between the C– and C+, T1 and T2. This means that the mycotoxin binders cannot reduce the effect of ZEN on the number of CL (Figure-1).

<H1>Discussion

The study of ZEN by Gajecka [8] found in his study that ZEN can suppress the proliferative activity of follicle cells contained in the ovarian cortex. The decline in follicular cells count was not followed with oocyte maturation process and follicular liquor influx that physiologically fills the antral space in the de Graaf's follicle before ovulation process. Follicular liquor is identical to endogenous estrogen hormones, and if collected with exogenous estrogen, may lead to hyperestrogenism.

ZEN is metabolized in the liver by the enzyme hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase into two metabolites isomers, the alpha ZEN and beta ZEN. Both of these isomers have resorcylic acid lactone structure that can penetrate the cell membrane of single layer cuboidal epithelial cells constituting the GCs to bind to estrogen receptors (E2) in the cytosol. Complex binding in the form of ZEN E2 receptor complex (ZEA-E2R) will be transferred into the nucleus and bind to estrogen receptors specifically in the nucleus, which may activate mRNA response which is usually played by estrogen receptors (E2) [9,10].

ZEA-E2R, which has enabled mRNA response, may inhibit the mitotic process of granulosa granulose cumulus cells on primary follicle. The GCs may develop to form layers of mature GCs and produce some cytokines such as insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1), fibroblastic growth factor family-2 (FGF-2), and stem cell factor (SCF). SCF will initiate oocytes development in primary follicles and stimulates theca cell mitosis. FGF-2 will suppress apoptosis of GCs and help SCF in maturating oocytes. IGF-1 plays an important role in

sending impulses to the anterior pituitary to release follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) as an initiator of follicular proliferation. FSH will then be captured by the receptor located in GCs and regulates primary follicle development to become de Graaf's follicle [11-13].

Yusuf *et al.* [14] and Ndossi *et al.* [15] concluded in their studies that effects of high doses ZEN may inhibit GCs in inducing IGF-1, leading to the decrease of FSH production. Superovulatory induction, which uses pregnant mare serum gonadotropin hormone derivatives, may accelerate the development of the follicle and an increased the number of de Graaf's follicle in the preovulatory stage.

The results of this study were supported by the opinion of Motea and Berdis [16], Moreira *et al.* [17] who wrote that ZEN metabolites may damage nucleic acid of pre-puberty female canine oocytes. The apoptotic profile is seen in oocytes with TUNEL staining assay.

As a major source of steroid hormones synthesis, cholesterol will be broken down to pregnenolone by the enzyme cytochrome p450 (CYP450) in the inner part of mitochondrial membrane. Pregnenolone is converted to progesterone by the enzyme 3beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (3beta-HSD) after diffuses toward the endoplasmic reticulum and to become dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) by the enzyme CYP450 17beta-hydroxylase (CYP450-17beta). 3beta-HSD and CYP450-17beta will catalyze DHEA and progesterone to androstendion. Androstendion will be catalyzed by the enzyme 17beta-HSD into testosterone in the theca cells and will diffuse to the GCs. Testosterone and estrone in GCs will be transformed into 17beta-estradiol by the enzyme aromatase (CYP450arom). Excessive accumulation of 17beta-estradiol, coupled with the influx of exogenous estrogen, may cause hyperestrogenism [18,19].

Mycotoxin binders can bind mycotoxins that have silicate compound. Silicate structure

consists of neosilicate, sorosilicate, inosilicate, cyclosilicate, phyllosilicate, and tectosilicate. The structure will be transformed into hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate that is easily metabolized body. Mycotoxin binders are also equipped with a decontaminant

material useful in improving the animals' condition [20,21].

Mycotoxin binders cannot reduce effects caused by ZEN on the number of CL. ZEN only gives effect on GCs up to preovulatory stage. The CL formed during postovulatory stage will be influenced by the amount of luteinizing hormone (LH) surge levels captured by LH receptors on theca cells of the de Graaf's follicle. Oocytes that have been ovulated from de Graaf's follicle will cause scars called the corpus rubrum and developed into the CL [2,12].

<H1>Conclusion

The number of follicles and CL more in line with increasing doses of mycotoxin binders. Required more than 2 mg/mouse/day mycotoxin binders to inhibit the effects of ZEN so that its can maintain the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, the de Graaf's follicle, and the number of CL in the ovary of ZEN-exposed female mice (*M. musculus*). Further studies should be performed on the potential of mycotoxin binders on the physiology and pathology of ovary, fetal placenta, the number of fetuses, testosterone and estrogen levels in mice exposed to ZEN.

<H1>Authors' Contributions

AS: Research project leader and coordinating research, designed study and analyzed data. ES: Processing of immunohistochemical method and corresponding author. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

<H1>Acknowledgments

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<H1>Competing Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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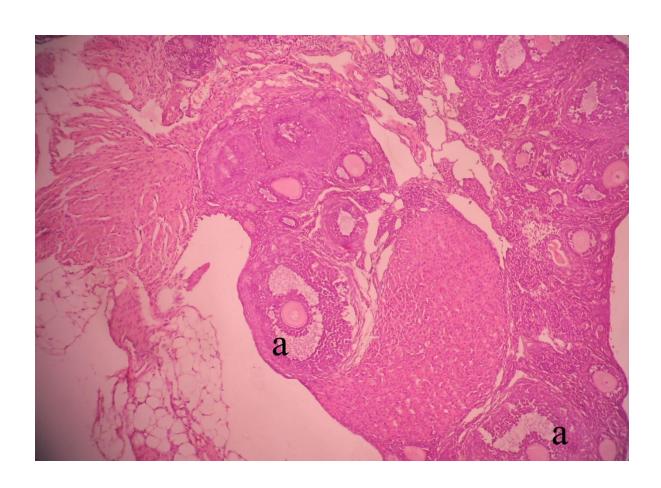
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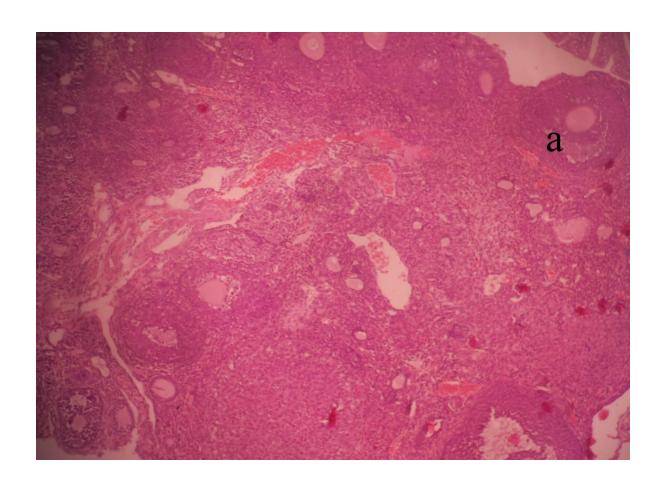
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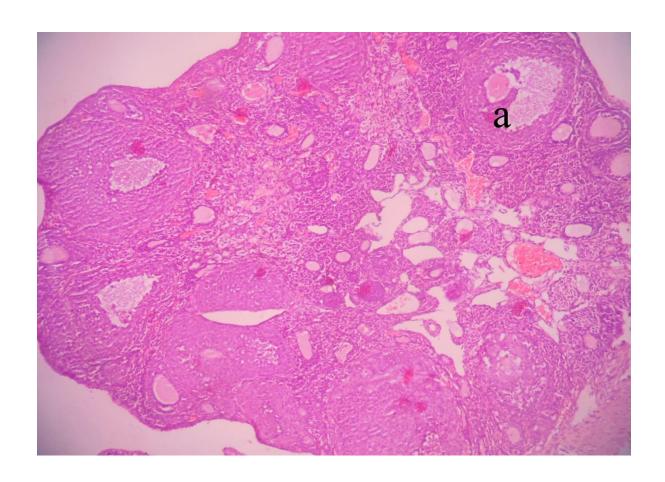
Table-1: Mean and standard deviation of observed follicle numbers and CL.					
Treatments	Follicular count (X±SD)				CL
	F _P	F_S	F _T	F_{dG}	(X±SD)

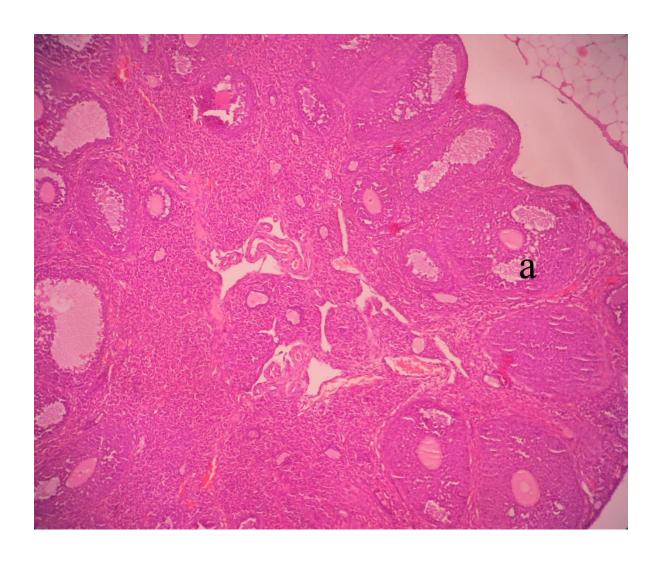
C-	14.2 ^d ±1.36	11.2 ^d ±0.28	6.5b±0.53	7.5 ^d ±0.74	2.3°±0.35
C+	7.1 ^{ab} ±0.12	3.7°±1.17	3.8°±1.21	1.5°±0.62	2.3°±0.34
T1	6.2°±0.16	5.2 ^b ±0.16	3.6°±0.16	2.6b±0.19	2.6a±0.10
T2	7.8 ^{bc} ±0.28	5.8 ^b ±0.53	3.7°±0.26	2.7 ^b ±0.26	2.5°a±0.10
Т3	8.4°±0.34	8.4°±0.34	4.6°±0.34	4.5°±1.01	3.4 ^b ±0.23

Different superscripts in the same column indicate significant differences among treatments (p<0.05). F_P =Primary follicles; F_S =Secondary follicles; F_T =Tertiary follicles; F_G =de Graaf's follicle CL=The corpus luteum, SD=Standard deviation









(d)

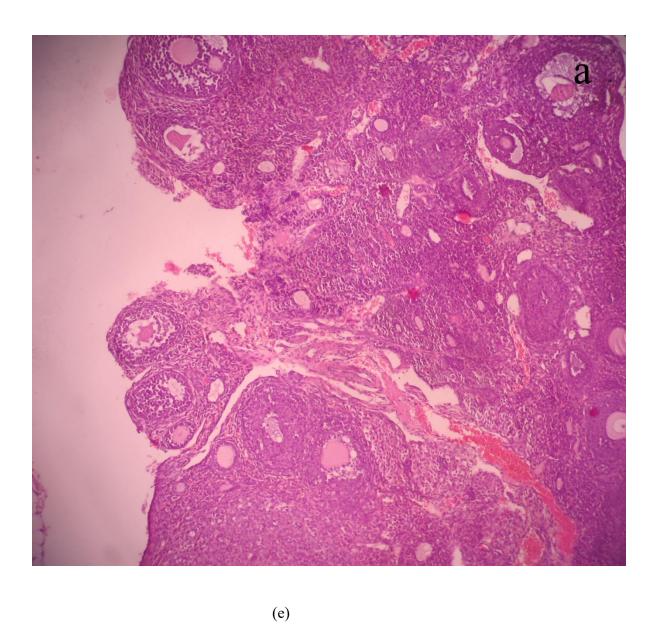


Figure 1: Ovarian histological features in treatments of C-, C+, T1, T2 and T3. (a) Primary follicle; (b) Secondary follicles; (c) Tertiary follicles; (d) de Graaf's follicle; (e) The corpus luteum

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Mycotoxin binders potential on histological of ovary mice exposed by zearalenone

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Abstract

Aim: This study was conducted to examine the potential of mycotoxin binder in ceasing zearalenone (ZEN) effect on mice reproduction. ZEN mycotoxin can induce reactive oxygen species that may cause damage and cell death. ZEN is estrogenic so that it may affect the reproductive organs failure.

Materials and Methods: Mycotoxin binder administration to female mice exposed to ZEN was aimed to count the number of primary follicles, secondary follicles, tertiary follicles, de Graaf's follicles, and the corpus luteum (CL). Negative control group (C) was not exposed to ZEN and without the administration of mycotoxin binders, while positive control group (C+) was exposed to 0.1 mg/mouse/day ZEN and without the provision of mycotoxin binders. Treatment groups (T1, T2, T3) were exposed to 0.1 mg/mouse/day ZEN and mycotoxin binders 0.5; 1; 2 mg/BW/day.

Results: ZEN and mycotoxin binders administration was conducted for 10 days. The number of primary follicles, secondary, tertiary, de Graaf's follicles and CL in negative control (C-) was 14.2 \pm 1.36, 11.2 \pm 0.28, 6.5 \pm 0.53, 7.5 \pm 0.74, and 2.3 \pm 0.35. The number in positive control (C+) group was as follows 7.1 \pm 0.12, 3.7 \pm 1.17, 3.8 \pm 1.21, 1.5 \pm 0.62, and 2.3 \pm 0.34. Results in treatment 1 (T1) were as follows 6.2 \pm 0.16, 5.2 \pm 0.16, 3.6 \pm 0.16, 2.6 \pm 0.19, and 2.6 \pm 0.10; in treatment 2 (T2) 7.8 \pm 0.28, 5.8 \pm 0.53, 3.7 \pm 0.26, 2.7 \pm 0.26, and 2.5 \pm 0.10; and in treatment 3 (T3) 8.4 \pm 0.34, 8.4 \pm 0.34, 4.6 \pm 0.34, 4.5 \pm 1.01, and 3.4 \pm 0.23.

Conclusion: The number of follicles and CL more in line with increasing doses of mycotoxin binders. Required more than 2 mg/mouse/day mycotoxin binders to inhibit the effects of ZEN so that its can maintain the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, the de Graaf's follicle, and the number of CL in the ovary of ZEN-exposed female mice (*Mus musculus*).

Keywords: corpus luteum, follicles, mycotoxin binders, zearalenone.

Introduction

Folliculogenesis in an animal species is affecting the development of oocytes (egg cells). The number of follicles during estrus cycle is influenced by factors such as animal species, reproductive phase, circumstances, age, mother, and genetic. Folliculogenesis includes changes in the size and number of granulosa cells (GCs), theca cell growth, egg cells position which is surrounded by cumulus oophorus cells, and increased volume of follicular cavity fluid [1]. Effects of estrogen on ovarian organ may increase the growth of granulosa and cumulus oophorus cells in reaching egg cells maturation [2].

At molecular level, hyperestrogenism conditions caused by zearalenone (ZEN) from the fungus *Fusarium graminearum* may lead to oxidative stress and induce apoptosis through intrinsic pathway in the mitochondria. The intrinsic pathway involves

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mitochondrial function affected by oxidative stress by releasing protein and activating caspase release into the cytosol. Caspase is a protease with a capacity to break down proteins. Oxidative stress makes cytochrome be released out of the mitochondria and will bind apoptotic protease activating factor 1 and procaspase 9 to activate Caspase 9 [3]. Caspase 9, which acts as the apoptosis initiator, will be dimerized and trigger a feedback by inhibiting Bcl-2 release and binds procaspase 3 to activate Caspase 3. Caspase 3 acts as executor, helping endonuclease and cytoplasmic protease activation that may fragment the nuclear DNA and degrade protein cytosol. The final result in fragmentation process is the formation of apoptotic bodies containing intracellular organelles and express phosphatidylserine that will trigger phagocytosis [3,4].

Mycotoxin binders act effectively in binding mycotoxins in the feed. Mycotoxin binders contain material that with high potential to be absorbed, including aluminosilicate activated carbon, cellulose, polysaccharides, peptidoglycan, and synthetic polymers such as cholestyramine, polyvinylpyrrolidone, and their derivatives [5]. The action mechanism of mycotoxin binders by eliminating methyl groups on ZEN's chemical structure [6]. The basic materials of mycotoxin binders are in the form of charcoal

compound, biotin, thiamine, aluminosilicate, and vitamins C and E which are antioxidants to decrease the effects of exposure to mycotoxins residues before being metabolized by the body.

The objective of this study was to determine the effect of mycotoxin binders on the number of primordial follicle cells, primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the corpus luteum (CL) in mice (*Mus musculus*) exposed to ZEN. This mycotoxin binders potential may be a solution to overcome problems of estrus cycle disorders due to ZEN which is produced by the fungus *F. graminearum* and to improve livestock productivity by controlling mycotoxins from the feed.

Materials and Methods

Ethical approval

This study was approved by ethical committee vide Ethical Clearance No: 309-KE Animal Care and use Committee, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Airlangga University.

Experimental

This study was an experimental laboratory using a completely randomized design. Data were statistically analyzed using SPSS 15 for Windows XP with the level of significance 0.05 (p=0.05) and the confidence level 99% (α =0.01). Steps of comparative hypothesis tests are as follows: Kolmogorov-Smirnov for normality test when the data normal distribution than continued with one-way ANOVA test and if significant difference (p<0.05) was found; the analysis was followed with Fisher's least significant difference test. A total of 20 female mice (M. musculus) from animal treatment laboratory, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Airlangga University, were used in this study. The laboratory animals used in this study were healthy female mice, 8-10 week-old and each 20-30 g weight. Healthy condition was determined by their active movement. Mice kept in an individual plastic cage in laboratory for Experimental Animal of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Universitas Airlangga with adequate ventilation. They were divided into five treatments in which each treatment was subjected to 4 replications as follows: Negative control group (C), not exposed to ZEN (Biotech Co. Ltd., Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China) and without being administered with mycotoxin binders; positive control group (C+), exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day without receiving mycotoxin binders; treatment group 1 (T1) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and the provision of mycotoxin binders (Impextraco Ltd, Bangkok, Thailand) 0.5 mg/ mouse/day; treatment group 2 (T2) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and receiving mycotoxin binders dose of 1 mg/mouse/day; the treatment group 3 (T3) exposed to ZEN dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day and mycotoxin binders in a dose of 2 mg/mouse/day. Variables were observed in this study and were the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the CL. Selection of mycotoxin binders concentration was based on previous research [5].

Procedures for mycotoxin binders and ZEN administration

Mycotoxin binders were administered orally to the female mice in doses of 0 mg/mouse/day, 0.5 mg/mouse/day, 1 mg/mouse/day, 2 mg/mouse/day, and in each treatment ZEN was added in a dose of 0.1 mg/mouse/day. The administration was done orally with a gastric sonde needle (Kent Scientific Co, Connecticut, USA) and repeatedly done until the 10th day. Gastric sonde needle in this research is instrument model of feeding needle for animal laboratory, Connecticut, USA.

Animal surgical procedures and sampling

After the dislocation of the cervical Os, surgery was performed on day 15. Disinfection was done with 70% alcohol followed by quick surgery to take out the ovaries. The ovaries were extracted and separated from the surrounding tissue, then stored in buoin solution with 75 ml saturated picric acid, 25 ml 40% formalin, and 5 ml glacial acetic acid for making preparations for immunohistochemistry and histology [7].

Observations of ovarian histology with hematoxylin-eosin staining [7]

Mice ovaries were fixed with buoin solution. The process was followed with hematoxylin and eosin staining. The staining was begun with soaking the object glass into xylol I and xylol II, each for 2 min, followed by immersion in 95%, 90%, 80%, 70% and 50% absolute (100%) alcohol respectively for 2 min. Then, the glass objects were put into hematoxylin staining for 7 min and washed with running water to remove the unabsorbed excess dye. Object glasses were re-immersed in eosin staining for 3 min and washed again with distilled water. The preparations were then soaked in 50%, 70%, 85%, 90%, 100%, 100%, alcohol, xylol I, and xylol II respectively for 2 min. Chemical was used in this study from Biotech Co. Ltd., Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China.

Results

Ovarian histological feature reading was performed on all preparations microscopically using quantitative methods for the number of the primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, de Graaf's follicle, and the CL. Ovarian Caspase 9 expression reading was performed on all preparations microscopically using scoring method [7]. The results of counting scoring obtained were subsequently averaged and then processed using SPSS 20 for windows. The means and standard deviations of the observations of the number of follicles, the CL and Caspase 9 are presented in Table-1.

Data obtained normal distribution than continued with ANOVA test. Statistical test results on the number of the primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, and the de Graaf's follicle showed

significant differences (p<0.05) between C- and C+, T1, T2 and T3. This indicates that the dose of 2 mg/head/day of mycotoxin binders can not inhibit the effects ZEN thus require more doses of mycotoxin binders to be able to inhibit the effects ZEN. The number of CL showed results was not significantly different (p>0.05) between the C- and C+, T1 and T2. This means that the mycotoxin binders cannot reduce the effect of ZEN on the number of CL (Figure-1).

Discussion

The study of ZEN by Gajecka [8] found that, ZEN can suppress the proliferative activity of follicle cells contained in the ovarian cortex. The decline in follicular cells count was not followed with oocyte maturation process and follicular liquor influx that physiologically fills the antral space in the de Graaf's follicle before ovulation process. Follicular liquor is identical to endogenous estrogen hormones, and if collected with exogenous estrogen, may lead to hyperestrogenism.

ZEN is metabolized in the liver by the enzyme hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase into two metabolites isomers, the alpha ZEN and beta ZEN. Both of these isomers have resorcylic acid lactone structure that can penetrate the cell membrane of single layer cuboidal epithelial cells constituting the GCs to bind to estrogen receptors (E2) in the cytosol. Complex binding

in the form of ZEN E2 receptor complex (ZEA-E2R) will be transferred into the nucleus and bind to estrogen receptors specifically in the nucleus, which may activate mRNA response which is usually played by estrogen receptors (E2) [9,10].

ZEA-E2R, which has enabled mRNA response. may inhibit the mitotic process of granulose cumulus cells on primary follicle. The GCs may develop to form layers of mature GCs and produce some cytokines such as insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1), fibroblastic growth factor family-2 (FGF-2), and stem cell factor (SCF). SCF will initiate oocytes development in primary follicles and stimulates theca cell mitosis. FGF-2 will suppress apoptosis of GCs and help SCF in maturating oocytes. IGF-1 plays an important role in sending impulses to the anterior pituitary to release follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) as an initiator of follicular proliferation. FSH will then be captured by the receptor located in GCs and regulates primary follicle development to become de Graaf's follicle [11-13].

Effects of high doses ZEN may inhibit GCs in inducing IGF-1, leading to the decrease of FSH production. Superovulatory induction, which uses pregnant mare serum gonadotropin hormone derivatives, may accelerate the development of the follicle and an increased the number of de Graaf's follicle in the preovulatory stage [14,15].

Table-1: Mean and standard deviation of observed follicle numbers and CL.

Treatments	Follicular count (X±SD)				CL (X±SD)
	F _P	F _s	F _T	F _{dG}	
C-	14.2d±1.36	11.2d±0.28	6.5⁵±0.53	7.5d±0.74	2.3°±0.35
C+	$7.1^{ab} \pm 0.12$	3.7°±1.17	3.8°±1.21	1.5°±0.62	2.3°±0.34
T1	6.2°±0.16	5.2b±0.16	$3.6^{\circ}\pm0.16$	2.6 ^b ±0.19	2.6°±0.10
T2	$7.8^{bc} \pm 0.28$	5.8b±0.53	3.7°±0.26	2.7b±0.26	2.5°±0.10
T3	8.4°±0.34	8.4°±0.34	4.6°±0.34	4.5°±1.01	3.4 ^b ±0.23

Different superscripts in the same column indicate significant differences among treatments (p<0.05). F_p =Primary follicles; F_s =Secondary follicles; F_t =Tertiary follicles; F_{dG} =de Graaf's follicle CL=The corpus luteum, SD=Standard deviation

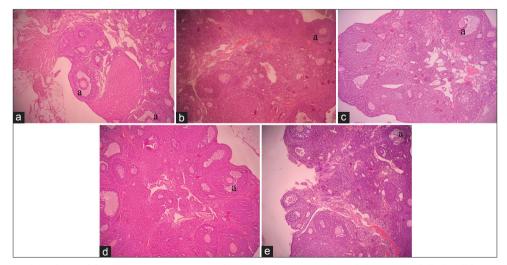


Figure-1: Ovarian histological features in treatments of C-, C+, T1, T2 and T3. (a) Primary follicle; (b) Secondary follicles; (c) Tertiary follicles; (d) de Graaf's follicle; (e) The corpus luteum.

The results of this study were supported by the opinion of Motea and Berdis [16], Moreira *et al.* [17] who wrote that ZEN metabolites may damage nucleic acid of pre-puberty female canine oocytes. The apoptotic profile is seen in oocytes with TUNEL staining assay.

As a major source of steroid hormones synthesis, cholesterol will be broken down to pregnenolone by the enzyme cytochrome p450 (CYP450) in the inner part of mitochondrial membrane. Pregnenolone is converted to progesterone by the enzyme 3beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (3beta-HSD) after diffuses toward the endoplasmic reticulum and to become dehydroepiandrosterone (DHEA) by the enzyme CYP450 17beta-hydroxylase (CYP450-17beta). 3beta-HSD and CYP450-17beta will catalyze DHEA and progesterone to androstendion. Androstendion will be catalyzed by the enzyme 17beta-HSD into testosterone in the theca cells and will diffuse to the GCs. Testosterone and estrone in GCs will be transformed into 17beta-estradiol by the enzyme aromatase (CYP450arom). Excessive accumulation of 17beta-estradiol, coupled with the influx of exogenous estrogen, may cause hyperestrogenism [18,19].

Mycotoxin binders can bind mycotoxins that have silicate compound. Silicate structure consists of neosilicate, sorosilicate, inosilicate, cyclosilicate, phyllosilicate, and tectosilicate. The structure will be transformed into hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate that is easily metabolized body. Mycotoxin binders are also equipped with a decontaminant material useful in improving the animals' condition [20,21].

Mycotoxin binders cannot reduce effects caused by ZEN on the number of CL. ZEN only gives effect on GCs up to preovulatory stage. The CL formed during postovulatory stage will be influenced by the amount of luteinizing hormone (LH) surge levels captured by LH receptors on theca cells of the de Graaf's follicle. Oocytes that have been ovulated from de Graaf's follicle will cause scars called the corpus rubrum and developed into the CL [2,12].

Conclusion

The number of follicles and CL more in line with increasing doses of mycotoxin binders. Required more than 2 mg/mouse/day mycotoxin binders to inhibit the effects of ZEN so that its can maintain the number of primary follicle, secondary follicle, tertiary follicle, the de Graaf's follicle, and the number of CL in the ovary of ZEN-exposed female mice (*M. musculus*). Further studies should be performed on the potential of mycotoxin binders on the physiology and pathology of ovary, fetal placenta, the number of fetuses, testosterone and estrogen levels in mice exposed to ZEN.

Authors' Contributions

AS: Research project leader and coordinating research, designed study and analyzed data. ES: Processing of immunohistochemical method and

corresponding author. Both authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Competing Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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