

EPERYTHROZONOSIS IN ROYAL PYTHON (*Python requis*) IN ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN IN IBADAN, NIGERIA

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Abstract

Eperythrozoonosis in Royal Python is reported. Clinical observation included dullness, paleness and jaundiced mucous membrane. Parasitological examination revealed the Rickettsial organism, *Eperythrozoon sp.* Stressful condition associated with Royal Python in captivity resulted in lower immunity and development of evident infection. Routine screening of Royal Python's prey to prevent transfer of ticks by contact is recommended.

Keywords: Captive python, malnutrition, Eperythrozoonosis.