Signalment and History

• 10-month-gestation, male, black Friesian foal aborted
• Foaling date in early June, aborted in April
• Fetus expelled inside amniotic sac and placenta
• Normal pregnancy in a healthy mare
• One other abortion on this farm earlier in season
• Concerns of fescue toxicity
Morphologic Diagnoses

- Severe, acute, focally extensive necrotizing placentitis with stromal, intravascular and intraepithelial Gram-negative bacilli
- Amniotic aspiration with Gram-negative bacilli
- Splenic lymphoid hyperplasia

- Culture and MALDI-TOF isolation of *Salmonella enterica* subsp *arizonae*
  - Placenta, fetal lung and gastric contents
- PCR for *Leptospira* spp negative

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Salmonella enterica subsp arizonae

- Commonly isolated from reptiles
- Immunocompromised humans and infants
- Abortions in sheep
- Case report of unilateral ulcerative keratitis in a horse
Salmonellosis in horses

• Four common presentations
  • Latent carrier (unapparent infection)
  • Fever, anorexia, neutropenia
  • Enterocolitis with diarrhea
  • Septicemia (with or without diarrhea)
Salmonella abortions in horses

- Equine host-adapted strain *Salmonella abortusequi*
  - Petechial hemorrhage of epicardium and endocardium
  - Blunted chorionic villi
  - Profound neutrophilic infiltration
  - Numerous bacilli

- Infection limited to reproductive tract & fetal tissues
  - Likely ascending route

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