



Diagnostic Exercise

From The Davis-Thompson Foundation*

Case #: **263**; Month: **June**; Year: **2025**

Question sheet

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History: A captive, 4-year-old, 1 kg, female, Bornean crested fireback pheasant (*Lophura ignita*) with no previous medical history was presented for necropsy.

Necropsy findings: On external examination, postmortem autolysis was mild, and the pheasant was in good body condition. On examination of the digestive system, the ceca were bilaterally distended to approximately 4 times their normal size (Figure 1). The serosa was mottled externally, varying from light gray to dark gray (Figure 2). On cut section, the wall of the cecum was thickened to 5 mm and within the wall were multiple pale tan to light gray, soft, round, nodules measuring an average of 3 mm in diameter (Figure 3). The surface of the mucosa had a nodular contour and was multifocally lined by a diphtheritic membrane. The lumen contained tan liquid mixed with several nematodes measuring 5 mm long. No significant findings were observed in any of the other body systems.

Gross and Histological Images:



Figure 1



Figure 2

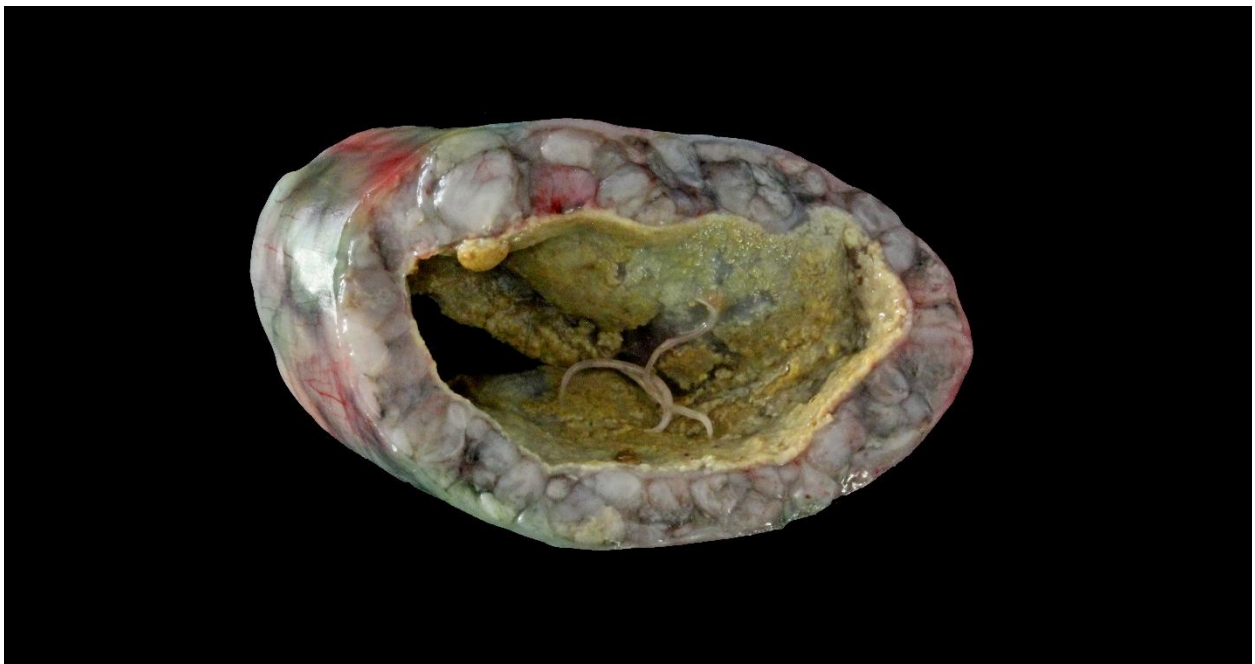


Figure 3



Figure 4

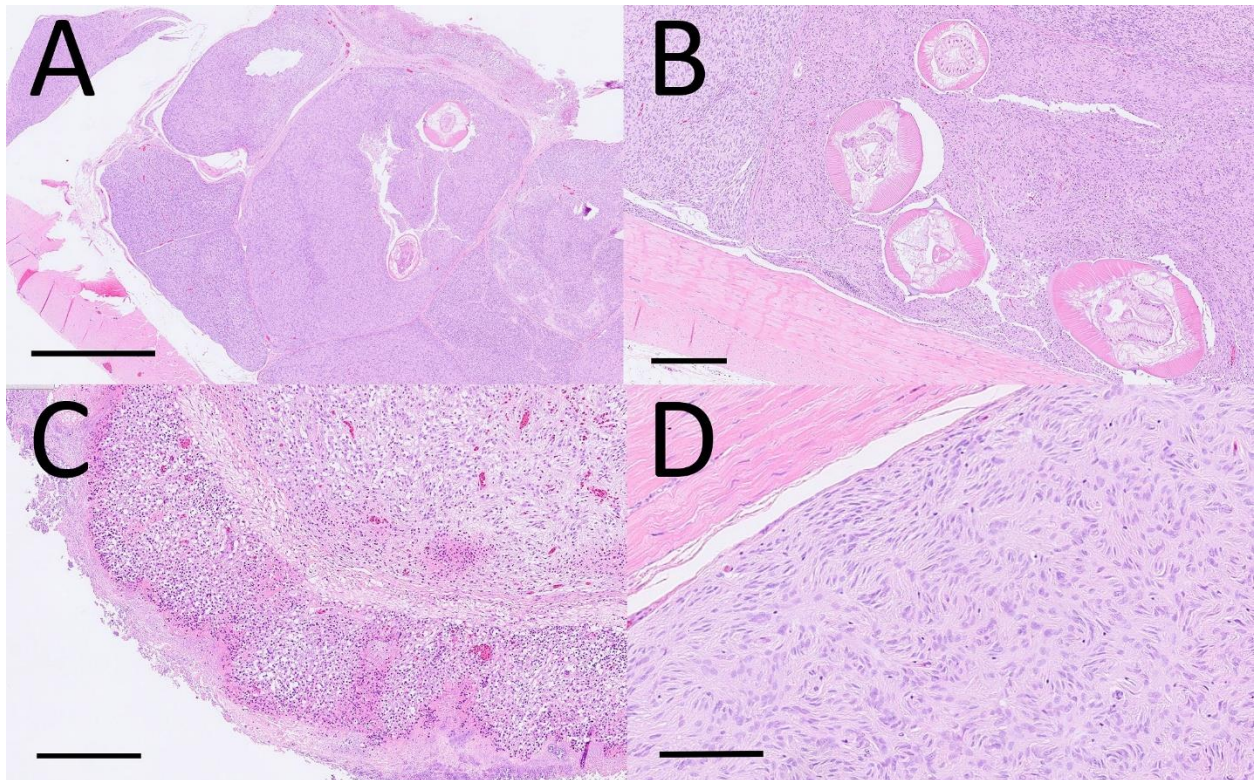


Figure 5

Follow-up questions:

- *Morphologic diagnosis*
- *Etiology*
- *Name the disease*

*The Diagnostic Exercises are an initiative of the Latin Comparative Pathology Group (LCPG), the Latin American subdivision of The Davis-Thompson Foundation (DTF). These exercises are contributed by members and non-members from any country of residence. Consider submitting an exercise! A final document containing this material with answers and a brief discussion will be posted on the DTF website.

(<https://davisthompsonfoundation.org/diagnostic-exercise/>)

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