

On some structural features of ovarian ligaments in domestic animals

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SUMMARY

The vascular and nerve components of ovarian ligaments (proper and suspensory) of the sheep, cow and the donkey were examined in order to investigate the presence of blood flow-regulator endovasal devices, artero-venous anastomoses, free and/or encapsulated nerve endings and ganglion cells.

Both the ligaments of the investigated species showed the presence of endovasal devices (valvular apparatus, intimal and polypoid cushions) and artero-venous anastomoses, the latter structurally ascribed to the first and second type of Conti and Bucciantè's classification.

Moreover, although not constantly, both the examined districts showed an autonomic nerve support, while four Ruffini's corpuscles were found in the suspensory ligament just in one sheep.

INTRODUCTION

Female genital organ's ligaments are fibrous structures that assure the correct connections between contiguous organs as well as the trophism and functionality by carrying about vessels and nerves.

The structural data about the genital ligaments and particularly the anatomical organization of the vasal and nerve components are scarce and incomplete.

Regarding structures investigated in the present research, the ovarian proper ligament (or utero-ovarian ligament) and the ovarian suspensory ligament, Barone (1994) refers that the suspensory ovarian ligament "...è costituito sotto il rivesti-