The sensitive innervation of the ostrich nasal mucosa

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SUMMARY

The sensitive innervation of the ostrich's nasal mucosa, through impregnative gold chloride methods, was investigated.

The autonomy innervation, constituted by ganglion cells placed along the course of nerve trunks was particularly represented in the respiratory tract of the nasal cavity.

The somatic nerve component, composed by free and capsulated endings, was especially distributed in the vestibular district. The nerve corpuscles were morphologically classified as Pacini, Pacini-like, Golgi-Mazzoni and Herbst.

Further investigations must be expected to attribute an effective functional role particularly to this last nerve component.

INTRODUCTION

The respiratory function is definitely influenced by several factors including the anatomical integrity of the organs that compose the apparatus, such as the nose and the correct action of its sensitive and motor nerve component.

It is commonly known that air, passing through the nasal cavity, undergoes several modifications, such as heating, humidification, and epuration from chemical and physical agents. These modifications are controlled by the nerve component which modify the blood volume and the secretion of the glands and globlet cells.

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