

INVESTIGATION OF CULTURAL AND IMMUNOGENIC PROPERTIES OF VACCINE VIRUS AGAINST MAREK'S DISEASE

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Summary. An attenuated chicken herpesvirus CVI-988 strain has been propagated in a SPF chicken embryo cell culture. It was established that the highest virus titer was obtained a 24 hours after the inoculation ($p < 0,05$).

Two cell culture and virus propagation technologies were compared. The data indicated that rotating flasks (Bellico Biotechnology, USA) enable to obtain highly concentrated vaccine virus. In comparison to the previously used technology the amount of cell culture media decreases from $0,56 \text{ ml/cm}^2$ to $0,22 \text{ ml/cm}^2$ ($p < 0,001$).

2000 one day old ISA VEDETE chickens were vaccinated for evaluation of the developed CVI-988 strain vaccine. Only 2 (0,1 %) chickens died of Marek's disease. In comparison to the reference vaccine this was of no statistical significance.

Keywords: Marek's disease, chicken herpesvirus, CVI-988 strain, vaccination.