

WEIGHT EQUALITY IN EUTHYROID YOUNG HEAVY HORSES-A *POSTMORTEM* PILOT STUDY

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Abstract. This study aimed to investigate the thyroid weight asymmetry in ‘Cavall Pirinenc Català’ breed of horses. For this purpose, twenty-seven (27) young healthy animals of known breed and ages were selected, and the fresh weight of right and left thyroïdal lobes were obtained. There were no detectable significant weight differences between the right and left sides, neither was fluctuating and directional asymmetry observed. The authors hope that this research, in addition to providing an overview as baseline data, will also stimulate research in both basic and clinical equine endocrinology as well as symmetric function of the thyroid gland in unilateral thyroidectomy.

Keywords: equine species, thyroid gland weight, ‘Cavall Pirinenc Català’, left–right symmetry, morphometry