



ECVP/ESVP Summer School in Veterinary Pathology



Marie Curie Training Courses

Summer School 2008 – CNS Case 5

Case 5) IT 49-24B:

Tissue from a BOVINE

Brainstem: There is multifocal, moderate vacuolation of the neuropil by numerous, clear, round vacuoles of varying size resulting in a spongiform appearance of the neuroparenchyma. Single neurons contain 1-2 small, clear, round vacuoles in their cytoplasm. In the spongiform areas, numerous neurons show moderate central chromatolysis (neuronal degeneration) or hypereosinophilia of the cytoplasm with shrinkage of the nucleus (neuronal necrosis). Additionally, there is a focally mild astrogliosis.

Morphologic diagnosis:

Brainstem: Neuronal and parenchymal vacuolation, multifocal, moderate with neuronal degeneration and necrosis

Name the disease:

Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)