

**Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences
Massey University**

PATHOLOGY REPORT

Status: Pending
Date: 12/03/2012
Type: Mortality

Submitter	Submission Details
Craig Alexander Department of Conservation Christchurch	Lab. Case/Spec ID: 47252 Submitter's Ref: Date Submitted: 09/03/2012 Date Received: 09/03/2012 Previous Case ID: WMD Case/Spec ID: 6610/1
Animal Details	Epidemiology
Animal ID: Animal Name: W12-05Ch Species: <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori hectori</i> Common Name: Hector's Dolphin Sex Class: Female Age Class: Date Died:	Number Dead: Number at Risk: Number Sick: Number Submitted: 1

Growth and Development

Parameter	Result Description	Value	Date Measured	Age Group
Depth of Tail Notch		m	12/03/2012	
Dorsal Blubber Depth		10 mm	12/03/2012	
Eye to Blowhole Length		.105 m	12/03/2012	
Eye to Corner of Mouth Length		.02 m	12/03/2012	
Girth at Anus		.31 m	12/03/2012	
Girth at Eye		.375 m	12/03/2012	
Girth at Flippers		.468 m	12/03/2012	
Girth at Navel		.45 m	12/03/2012	
Height of Dorsal Fin		.062 m	12/03/2012	
Lateral Blubber Depth		8 mm	12/03/2012	
Length of Base of Dorsal Fin		.125 m	12/03/2012	
Length of Flipper		.15 m	12/03/2012	
Length of Flukes		m	12/03/2012	
Snout to Anus Length		.52 m	12/03/2012	
Snout to Corner of Mouth Length		.115 m	12/03/2012	
Snout to Genital Slit Length		.5 m	12/03/2012	
Snout to Origin of Dorsal Fin Length		.375 m	12/03/2012	

Snout to Origin of Flipper Length	.205 m	12/03/2012
Total Length	.79 m	12/03/2012
Ventral Blubber Depth	9 mm	12/03/2012
Width of Flipper	.058 m	12/03/2012
Width of Flukes	m	12/03/2012
Weight	6.5 kg	12/03/2012

DIAGNOSIS

Maternal separation

COMMENTS

This young calf had breathed but had no evidence of having ingested milk. It may have survived for several days after birth, based on the degree of muscle wasting and the absence of fetal folds.

GROSS PATHOLOGY

This calf was in poor body condition, with marked wasting of the epaxial muscles. There were no fetal folds present, and no fetal whiskers were seen (although most of the skin of the head was sloughed). The upper teeth had erupted, the lower teeth had not. All body organs were friable but intact (moderate decomposition). There was bilateral bruising of the muscle and blubber at the level of the scapula, and bruising of the deep layer of the epaxial muscle immediately behind the head, in the absence of bruising of more superficial tissue.

The stomach was empty and there was very little content in the intestinal tract, with only a thin layer of meconium adherent to the distal colon.

The lungs were gas-filled (combination of aeration due to breathing and post mortem gas production). There was no froth or fluid in the airways. Three pale nodules containing nematodes and measuring approximately 3 mm in diameter were present in the periphery of the lung lobes.

The brain was extremely autolysed.

Pathologist:

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