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Stereotypic Behaviours of Race Horses Stabled in Different Location in Java Island, Indonesia

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Abstract

This research was aimed to determine race horse's stereotypic behaviours that raised in locations with different altitudes. This research was conducted at Tegal Waton village, Semarang Regency (725 m ASL) represent high land and at Pacar village, Bantul Regency (70 m ASL) represent low land. 70 heads of horses owned by 10 professional racing stables were observed in this study. Observation of horse's Stereotype behaviours includes windsucking, cribbing and weaving were observed including frequency and duration. Observations were carried out manually by observer for 24 hours a day for seven days. Data was analysed using Independent Sample T-test to see the effects of different altitude locations towards the observed parameters. Different locations will certainly have an effect on the physiological and behavioural. It becomes an important parameter to be known, especially by the care taker in the field of good stud farm owners, nutritionist and stud managers in order to provide proper treatment to the horse handled or owned. Windsucking much influenced by the feed. Feed containing high energy, will increase the frequency of wind-sucking. Based on the statistical analysis results, the frequency and duration of weaving revealed no significant differences in the two locations. Weaving is the same stereotypical behaviour such as cribbing and windsucking. Although the statistical analysis results obtained are not significant, the average frequency of weaving in Tegal Waton village tend to be higher than average frequency in the Pacar village. The high frequency of horses perform weaving influenced by boredom, because of the separation of the crowd. It can be concluded that the differences in environmental conditions at both locations has less effect on the stereotypic behaviours of the horse includes cribbing, weaving, and windsucking.

Keywords: Different location, Indonesia, racehorses, stereotypic behaviours