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Spermatologic properties of commercial cat foods containing saponin (*Yucca schidigera*): A comparative study with cardiovascular activity

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This study has been designed to examine the effect on feline cardiovascular and reproductive functions of the *Yucca schidigera* plant used as a feed additive in commercial cat food for the purpose of decreasing faecal odour. In 18 healthy male cats while the biomarker cTnI known as the “gold standard” for cardiovascular assessment in cats was used, CK-MB, total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and triglyceride levels were also investigated as aiding parameters. Results of the study demonstrated that there was no difference in cardiovascular or lipidic parameters after feeding on this type of pet food for 18 months. Also, spermatologic analysis revealed a significant increase in sperm motility alongside a significant decrease in sperm abnormalities. While motility was 83.33 ± 1.06 before feeding, it reached 90.00 ± 1.07 after feeding and was found to be statistically significant ($p < 0.001$). It was concluded that the *Yucca schidigera* plant generated reproductive improvement in male cats.

Biography

Alper Baran has completed his PhD from Istanbul University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Postdoctoral studies from same University and faculty. He is the Director of Department of Andrology in Istanbul University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine. He has published more than 26 papers in *Science Citation Index journals*.

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