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Article

# A Monoclonal Antibody-Based Indirect Competitive ELISA for Detecting Goose Astrovirus Antibodies

Junfeng Lv  $^{1,2}$ , Yanhan Liu  $^3$ , Zhihui Liu  $^{1,2}$ , Zhonghao Wang  $^1$ , Wenxuan She  $^1$ , Cun Liu  $^3$  and Ye Tian  $^{1,2,*}$ 

- <sup>1</sup> Poultry Institute, Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Jinan, China
- <sup>2</sup> Shandong Provincial Key Laboratory of Livestock and Poultry Breeding, Jinan, China
- <sup>3</sup> Shandong Provincial Center for Animal Disease Control, Jinan, China
- \* Correspondence: tianyecau@163.com

# **Simple Summary**

China is the world's leading producer of geese, accounting for over 70% of global goose production. With the rapid expansion of the goose industry, the control of viral diseases has become increasingly challenging, particularly in the case of goose astrovirus (GoAstV). While vaccines against GoAstV remain in the experimental stage, comprehensive epidemiological surveillance and evaluation of immune protection are essential. In this study, we generated a monoclonal antibody (mAb) targeting VP27 using GoAstV particles to obtain antibodies with neutralizing potential. Utilizing this mAb, we established an indirect competitive ELISA (ic-ELISA) for the rapid and accurate diagnosis of GoAstV infection in goose flocks. This study provides valuable tools and insights to support future vaccine development against GoAstV.

#### **Abstract**

Goose astrovirus (GoAstV) infection has become prevalent in major goose-producing regions, causing substantial economic losses to the industry. In this study, an indirect competitive ELISA (ic-ELISA) was developed based on a monoclonal antibody (mAb) targeting the GoAstV VP27 protein. The recombinant VP27 protein was expressed in *E. coli* and purified, followed by the generation of murine mAbs using the purified antigen. Through screening with GoAstV particles, mAb 3G11 exhibited strong immunoreactivity, which was further confirmed by Western blot and immunofluorescence assay (IFA). The ic-ELISA conditions were optimized as follows: GoAstV particle coating concentration of 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub> per well, 3G11 mAb dilution of 1:8000, and incubation times of 120 min for coating, 60 min for serum samples, and 60 min for mAb binding. The assay exhibited satisfactory performance in terms of sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility. Using this method, serum samples collected from major goose farming areas in Shandong province were tested and showed an overall seropositivity rate of 11.7%. This study provided a reliable serological tool for detecting GoAstV-specific antibodies and would support future vaccine evaluation efforts.

**Keywords:** goose astrovirus; VP27; monoclonal antibody; indirect competitive ELISA; serum antibody

# 1. Introduction

Goose astrovirus (GoAstV) is an emerging avian pathogen in China, having disseminated across major goose-farming regions [1,2]. Goslings infected with GoAstV develop visceral and articular gout, accompanied by anorexia, lethargy, and excretion of chalky droppings [3–5]. The infection induces rapid mortality in goslings, with case fatality rates of 20%–50%, causing substantial economic losses to the poultry industry [6]. Although the gout-inducing mechanisms have been investigated, effective control strategies remain elusive [5,7,8].

GoAstV is a single-stranded, positive-sense RNA virus within the family Astroviridae and genus Avastrovirus [9]. Similar to other astroviruses, GoAstV possesses an approximately 7 kb genome comprising two untranslated regions (the 5'-UTR and 3'-UTR) and three open reading frames (ORF1a, ORF1b, and ORF2) [1,10,11]. ORF1a and ORF1b encode non-structural proteins that mediate viral replication and transcription [12,13]. ORF2, encoding the structural protein, constitutes the viral capsid [14]. During host cell invasion, the ORF2-encoded polyprotein undergoes trypsin-mediated proteolytic cleavage into subunits including VP25, VP27, and VP34; notably, VP27 governs viral infectivity and serves as the dominant antigenic protein [15].

Vaccine development represents one of the most effective strategies for disease control, wherein neutralizing antibody titers serve as a critical metric for evaluating vaccine-induced immunoprotection. To date, several ELISA-based methods for detecting GoAstV-specific serum antibodies have been established, enabling diagnostic confirmation, seroepidemiological surveillance, and immune monitoring [16,17]. Furthermore, methods that could detect neutralizing antibodies should also be established to evaluate vaccine efficacy in future applications.

In this study, a murine monoclonal antibody (mAb) was generated against the recombinant GoAstV VP27 protein, and its immunoreactivity was characterized by western blot and immunofluorescence assay (IFA). An indirect competitive ELISA (ic-ELISA) was subsequently developed using this anti-VP27 monoclonal antibody, with subsequent evaluation of the sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility. This established method was then applied to conduct an epidemiological investigation of GoAstV using serum samples. The present study provided a reliable serological tool for the detection of GoAstV-specific antibodies and facilitates future vaccine evaluation.

# 2. Materials and Methods

# 2.1. Cells, Virus, Sera and Animals

SP2/0 murine myeloma cells were obtained from Procell Life Science & Technology Co., Ltd. (Wuhan, China) and maintained in RPMI-1640 medium supplemented with 20% fetal bovine serum (FBS; Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA). LMH cells were preserved in our laboratory and cultured in DMEM containing 10% FBS and used for the propagation of GoAstV. One-day old geese were acquired from Guiliu Livestock Farming Co., Ltd. (Qihe, China). GoAstV-negative sera were obtained from goslings confirmed negative by PCR, while positive sera were collected at 7 days post-infection. BALB/c mice were procured from Shandong Pengyue Experimental Animal Breeding Co., Ltd. (Jinan, China).

# 2.2. Expression and Purification of VP27 Protein

Total RNA of GoAstV was extracted using the Simply P Total RNA Extraction Kit (BioFlux, Hangzhou, China). The VP27 gene segment was amplified by one-step RT-PCR using the AccurSTART One Step RT-PCR Kit (Vazyme, Nanjing, China) with the primer pair 5'gaattcCAGGTTACTCCCTCGCT-3' and 5'-gcggccgcAGAGGTCTTGAGCGAGAC-3', incorporate EcoRI and NotI restriction sites, respectively. The amplified VP27 sequence was verified by sequencing and subsequently codon-optimized for expression in E. coli by Sangon Biotech Co., Ltd. (Qingdao, China). The optimized VP27 gene was cloned into the pET-28a (+) vector, and the resulting recombinant plasmid, pET-28a-VP27, was confirmed by restriction digestion and DNA sequencing. The validated plasmid was then transformed into E. coli BL21(DE3) competent cells (TransGen, Beijing, China). Recombinant protein expression was induced by the addition of IPTG. VP27 expression was analyzed by SDS-PAGE, and the protein was purified under native conditions using His-Tagged Protein Purification Kit (CWBIO, Beijing, China). The purified VP27 was verified by SDS-PAGE and Western blot analysis using anti-His monoclonal antibody (Biodragon, Beijing, China).

#### 2.3. Development of Anti-VP27 mAbs

The purified VP27 protein was emulsified with an equal volume of incomplete Freund's adjuvant (Sigma-Aldrich, Shanghai, China). Six-week-old female BALB/c mice were subcutaneously injected in the cervical region with the emulsion containing 50 µg of VP27 protein. Immunizations were administered three times at two-week intervals. Fourteen days following the final immunization, antibody titers in serum were detected by indirect ELISA using VP27 protein as the coating antigen following procedures reported before [18]. Mice with high serum antibody titers were euthanized by cervical dislocation, and splenocytes were harvested for fusion with SP2/0 murine myeloma cells. The fused cells were cultured in HAT selection medium in 96-well plates. Cell culture supernatants were collected seven days post-fusion and screened for anti-VP27 antibodies by indirect ELISA using GoAstV as coating antigen. Hybridoma clones secreting VP27-specific antibodies were subsequently subjected to three rounds of limiting dilution to establish monoclonal lines. Monoclonal antibodies were produced as ascites by inoculating ten-week-old female BALB/c mice with the selected hybridoma cells.

#### 2.4. Characterization of Anti-VP27 mAbs

The reactivity of monoclonal antibodies against the VP27 protein was assessed by Western blot analysis. Purified VP27 protein was separated by electrophoresis on a 12.5% SDS-polyacrylamide gel and subsequently transferred onto a nitrocellulose membrane. The membrane was then blocked by incubating with 5% skimmed milk for 2 h at room temperature. Following blocking, the membrane was incubated with anti-VP27 monoclonal antibodies (hybridoma supernatant) for 2 h at room temperature. After three washes with PBST, the membrane was incubated with HRP-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (CWBIO, Beijing, China) for 1 h at room temperature. Following a final washing step, protein bands were visualized using Amersha ImageQuant 800 (Cytiva, Shanghai, China).

An IFA was performed on GoAstV-infected LMH cells. LMH cells were seeded in 96-well plates and infected with GoAstV at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 0.1. At 48 hours post-infection, the cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 30 min at room temperature and stored at 4 °C until use. Fixed cells were incubated with anti-VP27 monoclonal antibodies, followed by incubation with AF488-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG (H+L) (Beyotime, Shanghai, China). Immunofluorescence images were acquired using a Nikon ECLIPSE Ts2R fluorescence microscope (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan).

#### 2.5. Neutralization Test

Viral titer was measured with IFA, and calculated and expressed as TCID50. For the neutralization test, serum samples were inactivated at 56 °C for 30 min, after which 100  $\mu$ l of each serum was mixed with an equal volume of GoAstV suspension containing  $10^5$  TCID $_{50}$ . Following incubation at 37 °C for 1 h, the residual viral titer of each mixture was determined. Samples demonstrating a reduction in virus titer to below  $10^4$  TCID $_{50}$  were considered positive for neutralizing antibodies.

### 2.6. Development of mAb-Based ic-ELISA

GoAstV viral suspensions were diluted and coated onto 96-well plates ( $100 \mu L/well$ ,  $10^5 TCID_{50}$ ,  $10^4 TCID_{50}$ ,  $10^3 TCID_{50}$ ) and incubated overnight at 4 °C. Following coating, the plates were washed three times with PBST and blocked with 5% non-fat milk (Beyotime, Shanghai, China) in PBS at 37 °C for 60, 90 and 120 min. After washing,  $100 \mu L$  of GoAstV positive (P) and negative (N) serum (diluted 1:10 in dilution buffer) were added to the plates and incubated at 37 °C for 45, 60 and 75 min. After washing,  $100 \mu L$  of anti-VP27 mAb (diluted from 1:1000 to 1:16000 in PBST) were added to the plates and incubated at 37 °C for 45, 60 and 75 min. Subsequently,  $100 \mu L$  of HRP-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (CWBIO, Beijing, China) was added and incubated for 50 minutes at 37 °C. After three additional washes with PBST, the plates were developed with TMB substrate for 15 minutes, and the reaction was terminated using TMB stop solution (Beyotime, Shanghai, China). Absorbance

was measured at 450 nm. Optimum reaction parameters and composition were optimized based on the maximum the P/N ratio.

# 2.7. Determination of the ic-ELISA Cut-Off Percent Inhibition Value

Thirty GoAstV-negative serum samples were analyzed to establish the cut-off percent inhibition (PI) value. The PI for each sample was calculated using the following formula: PI (%) = [1 - (OD( $_{450}$ ) of sample - minimum OD( $_{450}$ )) / (maximum OD( $_{450}$ ) - minimum OD( $_{450}$ )] × 100% [19]. The cut-off PI value was defined as the mean PI of these negative samples plus twice the standard deviation (mean + 2 × SD) [20].

#### 2.8. Sensitivity, Specificity and Reproducibility Assessments of ic-ELISA

The sensitivity of the developed ELISA was evaluated using known positive serum samples subjected to serial dilutions ranging from 1:10, 1:100, 1:1000, and 1:10,000. Specificity was assessed by testing the method against antisera positive for goose Parvovirus (GPV), Tembusu virus (TMUV), avian Reovirus (ARV), avian influenza virus (AIV, H5), and duck Avastrovirus (DAstV), which were generated using vaccine strain or natural infection. To determine reproducibility, five serum samples (comprising three positive and two negative) were analyzed in triplicate, and the intra-assay coefficient of variation (CV) was calculated.

#### 2.9. Application of the ic-ELISA

Using the newly established serological method, we tested goose serum samples collected from major goose-farming regions in Shandong province between October 2024 to May 2025 to analyze epidemiology of this virus.

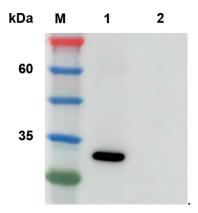
# 3. Results

#### 3.1. Preparation of VP27 Protein

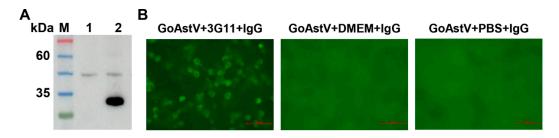
The VP27 protein was expressed using recombinant plasmid of pET-28a-VP27 in *E. coli* BL21(DE3) cells and purified using His-Tagged Protein Purification Kit. The proteins were identified with SDS-PAGE and western blot with an approximate 27 kDa molecular mass (Figure 1).

#### 3.2. Identification of mAbs Specific for VP27

The purified VP27 protein served as an immunogen to generate mAbs in mice. Splenocytes were subsequently isolated and fused with SP2/0 murine myeloma cells. Following hybridoma formation and culture, the resulting clones were systematically screened for antigen-specific antibody production. After three rounds of screening, hybridoma clone 3G11 demonstrated superior immunoreactivity. When culture supernatants from 3G11 cells were employed as primary antibodies in western blot analysis, they specifically recognized the VP27 protein (Figure 2A). Furthermore, these antibodies effectively detected GoAstV antigens in infected LMH cells by IFA (Figure 2B). For large-scale antibody production, mAbs were subsequently prepared as ascites fluid by inoculating 3G11 cells into female BALB/c mice.



**Figure 1.** Western blot analysis of recombinant VP27 protein. Purified VP27 was probed with an anti-His tag monoclonal antibody. Lane M: protein marker; Lane 1: purified VP27 protein; Lane 2: negative control (non-induced *E. coli* lysate).



**Figure 2.** Immunoreactivity analysis of the VP27 monoclonal antibody (3G11). (A) Western blot analysis of mAb 3G11. Lane M: protein marker; Lanes 1 and 2: lysates of *E. coli* BL21 (pET-28a-VP27) without and with IPTG induction, respectively. (B) IFA of GoAstV-infected LMH cells. Cells were incubated with VP27 mAb (3G11), DMEM, or PBS, followed by staining with AF488-labeled goat anti-mouse IgG. Scale bar: 100 μm.

#### 3.3. Optimization of the ic-ELISA

The optimal reaction conditions for the ic-ELISA were established using a checkerboard titration method. Based on the positive-to-negative (P/N) ratio, the optimal antigen coating concentration was determined to be  $10^4$  TCID<sub>50</sub> per well, while the optimal dilution of the 3G11 mAbs was 1:8000 (Table 1). The incubation times for blocking, serum samples, and monoclonal antibodies were standardized at 120 min, 60 min, and 60 min, respectively (Table 2). The working dilution of HRP-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG and the development times for TMB substrate and stop solution were implemented according to the manufacturer's recommended protocols.

# 3.4. Determination of Cut-Off Value

The cut-off value for the ic-ELISA was established using thirty negative serum samples. The mean PI value and SD of these samples were determined to be 29.30% and 7.61%, respectively. Accordingly, the cut-off value was calculated as 44.52% (Table 3). Serum samples exhibiting PI values below this threshold were classified as negative, while those with values equal to or exceeding 44.52% were considered positive.

Table 1. Determination of the optimal amount coating antigen and mAbs dilution.

GoAstV o	oating			Dilution		
amount		1:1000	1:2000	1:4000	1:8000	1:16000
105	N	3.268±0.715	3.020±0.682	2.581±0.496	2.117±0.328	1.757±0.306
	P	1.583±0.421	1.375±0.358	1.283±0.314	1.105±0.253	0.963±0.201
TCID50	N/P	2.064	2.196	2.012	1.916	1.824

$10^{4}$	N	2.537±0.301	2.324±0.092	2.021±0.102	1.752±0.114	1.325±0.217
Р	$0.824 \pm 0.098$	$0.619 \pm 0.054$	$0.420 \pm 0.048$	$0.364 \pm 0.031$	0.357±0.017	
TCID50	N/P	3.079	3.754	4.812	4.813	3.711
102	N	1.724±0.257	1.452±0.218	1.297±0.201	1.135±0.168	0.906±0.153
10 <sup>3</sup>	P	0.567±0.137	0.542±0.197	$0.485 \pm 0.108$	0.385±0.112	0.312±0.064
TCID50	N/P	3.04	2.679	2.674	2.945	2.904

The optimal amount coating antigen and mAbs dilution was determined based on the N/P value.

Table 2. Determination of cut-off value for ic-ELISA.

D11 ' ( ')	C			
Blocking (min)	Serum samples (min) —	45	60	75
	45	3.128	3.458	3.624
60	60	3.215	3.687	3.765
	75	3.654	3.596	3.852
	45	3.754	3.659	3.752
90	60	3.961	3.851	4.012
	75	4.218	3.958	4.351
	45	3.582	3.912	4.215
120	60	4.372	4.621	4.635
	75	4.256	4.657	4.593

The optimal incubation time was determined based on the N/P value, and the incubation times for blocking, serum samples and VP27 mAbs were 120 min, 60 min, and 60 min, respectively.

Table 3. Determination of cut-off value for ic-ELISA.

Sample No.	PI	Sample No.	PI	Sample No.	PI	Sample No.	PI
1	31.70%	9	25.60%	17	30.80%	25	33.50%
2	25.30%	10	35.90%	18	34.60%	26	30.80%
3	11.20%	11	28.60%	19	10.70%	27	27.60%
4	23.50%	12	29.30%	20	24.30%	28	33.50%
5	36.40%	13	37.30%	21	33.10%	29	34.80%
6	27.80%	14	35.60%	22	34.50%	30	38.10%
7	13.10%	15	25.80%	23	35.80%		
8	35.80%	16	17.50%	24	36.40%		
Mean l	PI	29.30%	SD	7.61%	Cut-	off value	44.52%

Cut-off value = Mean  $PI + 2 \times SD$ .

# 3.5. Sensitivity, Specificity, Reproducibility and Accuracy Assessments of ic-ELISA

The analytical sensitivity of the ic-ELISA was evaluated using five known positive serum samples subjected to serial dilution. All samples tested positive at dilutions of 1:10 and 1:100, while two remained positive at a 1:1000 dilution. All samples yielded negative results at the 1:10,000 dilution (Table 4), demonstrating acceptable analytical sensitivity for this assay.

Table 4. Sensitivity detection of ic-ELISA.

Sample	Dilution							
No.	1:10		1:100		1:1000		1:10000	
1	65.34%	P	60.24%	P	53.20%	P	41.26%	N
2	52.51%	P	48.60%	P	42.25%	N	40.23%	N
3	72.30%	P	64.28%	P	56.31%	P	44.31%	N
4	69.54%	P	52.24%	P	43.70%	N	38.50%	N
5	60.35%	P	50.26%	P	41.25%	N	32.40%	N

Samples were all positive. P, positive. N, negative. P or N were determined based on cut-off value.



To assess specificity, the assay was challenged with positive antisera against GPV, TMUV, ARV, AIV H5 and DAstV. All antisera against these common avian viruses tested negative (Table 5), indicating that the method exhibits high specificity for GoAstV antibody detection.

**Table 5.** Specificity detection of ic-ELISA.

	Antisera against different virus											
	GoAst	V	GPV		TMU	V	ARV		AIV H	[5	DAs	tV
PI	56.20%	Р	34.65%	N	27.50%	N	25.40%	N	22.60%	N	35.20	N

P, positive. N, negative. P or N were determined based on cut-off value.

The reproducibility of the assay was determined by intra- and inter-assay testing of three positive and two negative serum samples, with results evaluated based on the coefficient of variation (CV). The intra-assay CV ranged from 3.53% to 9.82%, and the inter-assay CV varied from 3.19% to 8.42% (Table 6). All CV values were below the 10% threshold established in previous studies [18] (Gao et al., 2022), confirming satisfactory methodological reproducibility.

Table 6. Specificity detection of ic-ELISA.

	Sample	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Mean	SD	CV
	1	71.20%	68.50%	65.30%	68.33%	0.024	3.53%
Teaterra	2	54.30%	60.10%	62.20%	58.87%	0.033	5.68%
Intra-	3	58.20%	65.30%	59.30%	60.93%	0.031	5.12%
assay	4	32.20%	27.50%	29.40%	29.70%	0.019	6.50%
	5	25.30%	30.10%	32.20%	29.20%	0.029	9.82%
	1	63.40%	68.70%	70.40%	67.50%	0.030	4.42%
Touten	2	62.50%	64.10%	56.20%	60.93%	0.034	5.60%
Inter-	3	60.30%	61.20%	56.80%	59.43%	0.019	3.19%
assay	4	28.70%	30.20%	31.50%	30.13%	0.011	3.79%
	5	24.60%	25.20%	29.60%	26.47%	0.022	8.42%

CV, coefficient of variation. CV = SD / Mean.

# 3.6. Epidemiological Investigation of GoAstV

A total of 196 serum samples were collected from major goose-farming regions in Shandong Province. The overall seropositivity rate for GoAstV was 11.7%, with the highest incidence (15.6%) observed in Liaocheng (Table 7). These findings indicate an established circulation of GoAstV within the provincial poultry industry.

**Table 7.** Detection of GoAstV infection in goose farming regions in Shandong province.

Region	Serum samples	Flock type	Positive samples	Positive rate
Weifang	51	Commercial	7	13.7%
Dezhou	33	Breeding	3	9.1%
Jining	27	Commercial	3	11.1%
Liaocheng	32	Commercial	5	15.6%
Linyi	23	Commercial	3	13.0%
Zaozhuang	18	Breeding	1	5.6%
Jinan	12	Commercial	1	8.3%
Total	19	96	23	11.7%

# 4. Discussion

VP27 represents a major antigenic capsid protein in many astroviruses, forming the outer spike structures of mature infectious virions. It primarily mediates host cell interaction and viral entry, while also eliciting potent immune responses [15,21,22]. In contrast to the capsid precursor VP90, which is released from cells as part of immature viral particles, VP27 contains a higher density of immunodominant epitopes [21,23]. In this study, the recombinant VP27 protein was produced using an E. coli expression system and subsequently employed to generate mAbs in BALB/c mice. Western blot and IFA demonstrated that the resulting mAbs 3G11 exhibited specific immunoreactivity against both VP27 and native GoAstV particles (Figure 2), indicating their utility for developing serological detection methods.

The ELISA represents one of the most widely utilized serological techniques in veterinary diagnostics due to its operational simplicity, high throughput, and favorable sensitivity and specificity [16,24,25]. In the present study, a monoclonal antibody against VP27 (clone 3G11) was employed to develop an ic-ELISA. Optimal assay conditions were established via checkerboard titration, identifying an antigen coating concentration of 10<sup>4</sup> TCID<sub>50</sub> per well and mAbs working dilution of 1:8000 (Table 1). A cut-off value of 44.52% was determined based on PI analysis of 30 negative serum samples to differentiate positive and negative results. The assay demonstrated satisfactory analytical sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility upon comprehensive evaluation. Taken together, an ic-ELISA was successfully established for the detection of GoAstV-specific antibodies in geese, providing a reliable tool for serological surveillance.

The use of intact viral particles during mAb screening increases the probability of obtaining neutralizing antibodies [26,27]. In this study, GoAstV particles served as the coating antigen throughout three rounds of subcloning, and the resulting mAbs 3G11 demonstrated strong immunoreactivity with viral particles (Figure 2B). This finding suggested that 3G11 might recognize surface epitopes on the virion surface, a premise that warranted further validation. Similarly, since GoAstV particles were also employed as the coating antigen in the ic-ELISA, this method primarily detected neutralizing antibodies in serum, which were critical for evaluating vaccine-induced immune protection. Given that vaccine development represents the most effective strategy for controlling GoAstV infection, the established ic-ELISA provides a valuable tool for assessing vaccine efficacy in future applications.

#### 5. Conclusions

In conclusion, a murine mAb (designated 3G11) was generated against the GoAstV VP27 protein. Western blot and IFA confirmed its specific immunoreactivity with both recombinant VP27 and native GoAstV particles. Subsequently, an ic-ELISA was developed using mAb 3G11, whose analytical performance in terms of sensitivity, specificity, and reproducibility was validated through comprehensive assessment. Collectively, this study establishes a reliable serological tool for detecting GoAstV-specific antibodies and provides a foundation for evaluating vaccine efficacy in future applications.

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, JL, YL, and YT; Formal analysis, ZL and WS; Methodology, JL, ZW and ZL; Data curation, YL, WS and CL; Writing-original draft preparation, JL and CL; Writing-review and editing, YL and YT; Funding acquisition, YT; All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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**Institutional Review Board Statement:** All animal husbandry and experimental procedures were conducted in accordance with the Guidelines for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the Poultry Institute, Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences (SAAS-2025-S021).

**Informed Consent Statement:** Not applicable.

**Data Availability Statement:** The original contributions presented in this study are included in the article. Further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

Acknowledgments: Not applicable.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

#### **Abbreviations**

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

GoAstV Goose astrovirus

ic-ELISA indirect competitive ELISA mAb monoclonal antibody IFA immunofluorescence assay

VP viral protein

TCID<sub>50</sub> 50% tissue culture infective dose

UTR untranslated region ORF open reading frame

P positive N negative

PI percent inhibition
GPV goose Parvovirus
TMUV Tembusu virus
ARV avian Reovirus
AIV avian influenza virus
DAstV duck Avastrovirus
CV coefficient of variation

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