

DYSTOCIA DUE TO SCHISTOSOMUS REFLEXUS IN A MURRAH BUFFALO

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ABSTRACT

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A case of dystocia in a Murrah she buffalo due to Schistosomus reflexus is reported and discussed.

Key Words: Dystocia, Schistosomus Reflexus, Buffalo.

INTRODUCTION

Schistosomus reflexus is a monstrosity seen in cattle and is characterized by anomaly of the trunk with malformation of the thoracic and abdominal cavities with extensive deformities involving actual angulation of vertebral column, herniation of abdominal organs and marked by skeleton defects leading to dystocia (Roberts, 1971). The prevalence of Schistosomus reflexus is believed to occur in cattle from as low as 0.01% (Sloss and Johnston, 1967) to 1.3 (Knight, 1996). The present case reports a rare occurrence of Schistosomus reflexus in a she buffalo.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

A case of dystocia in a pluriparous murrah buffalo was presented to Veterinary Referral Hospital cum Clinical Complex, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, Jammu with a history that both the forelimbs of the calf were partially out since last 6 hours and no progression in parturition. The birth passage

was completely relaxed. After sufficient lubrication, animal was examined per vaginally and observed that foetal movements and other reother reflexes absent. Fetus was found to be dead and fetal head extended into the pelvic cavity.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Attempt made for relieving the calf with controlled traction was futile. Hence forced traction was tried after thorough proper lubrication with carboxy methyl cellulose solution and a dead monster male calf was delivered per vaginum (Fig.). The fetus was diagnosed as a case of Schistosomus reflexus as per the classification of teratological defects given by Roberts (1971). After removing the monster calf the buffalo was given 10 litres each of 5% Dextrose normal saline and normal saline solution intravenously. A course of broad spectrum antibiotic Enrofloxacin 1ml/20kg b.wt and analgesic Meloxicam 150 mg were administered intramuscularly as well as 4 boli Furea was placed in uterus for three consecutive days. Injection of Dexamethasone 60 mg was given intravenously on the day of treatment only. The said buffalo recovered uneventfully. It was characterized by distinct ventral curvature of spine with exposed abdominal mass, The diaphragm attachment and thoracic arc development were incomplete and thoracic visceral organs like intestines, omentum, kidney and liver were exposed. The limbs were touching each other and it was difficult

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to straighten them with neck and head in ankylosed state. A more or less similar characteristic anomaly in crossbred calf (Singh *et al.*, 2010) and she buffalo calf (Chandraprasad *et al.*, 2010) were observed when dystocia was relieved by caesarean section.

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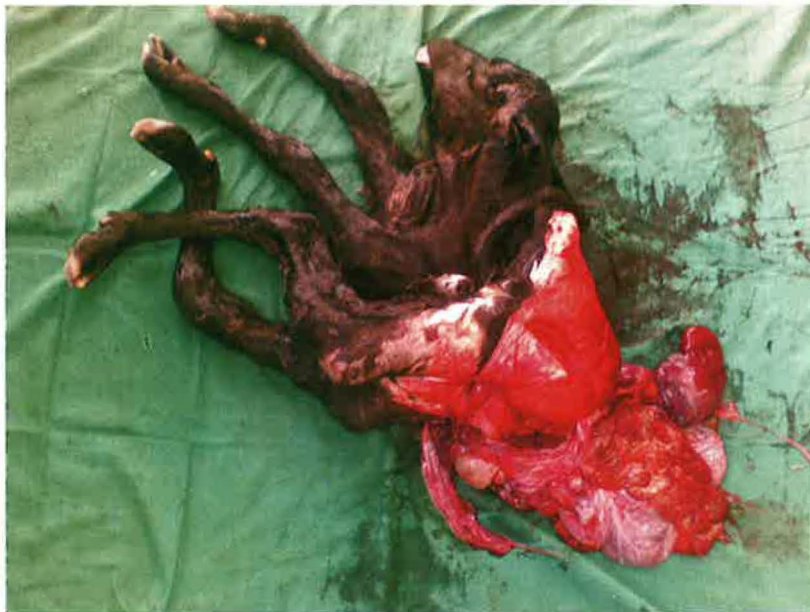


FIG: SCHISTOSOMUS REFLEXUS DELIVERED BY PER VAGINUM.

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