

## DYSTOCIA DUE TO CONJOINED TWIN MONSTER IN A MALABARI DOE

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### ABSTRACT

Dystocia due to a conjoined twin monster in a Malabari doe has been reported.

**Key Words:** Dystocia, Conjoined twin monster, Doe.

### INTRODUCTION

Conjoined twins arise from a single ovum and are monozygotic. They are most common in cattle but are rarely seen in sheep, pigs, dogs and horses. Abnormal duplication of germinal area in fetus will give rise to congenital fetal abnormalities with partial duplication of body structures. These may vary from single normal individuals to those of two normal but superficially joined individuals (Roberts, 1971). The incidence of fetal monsters though rare, was reported earlier in goats (Pandit *et al.*, 1994), buffalo (Bugalia *et al.*, 2001) and cow (Honnappagol *et al.*, 2005).

### CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATION

A, pluriparous, full term pregnant Malabari doe aged about four years was brought with the history of straining for the last 16 hours. Pervaginal examination after proper lubrication revealed dead fetus in anterior longitudinal presentation. Repulsion and deeper exploration of the fetus revealed duplication of the body beyond the neck.

### TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Attempts to relieve dystocia by mutation and judicious traction with proper lubrication of the birth canal were unsuccessful and hence cesarean section was resorted. The animal was restrained in right lateral recumbancy following paravertebral anaesthesia, laparohysterotomy was performed through the left ventrolateral abdominal wall. The dead conjoined monster fetus was delivered. The laparohysterotomy incisions were closed as per the standard techniques and

supportive treatments were carried out with normal saline, oxytocin, chlorpheniramine maleate and ceftriaxone. Antibiotic therapy with ceftriaxone was continued for five days.

Examination of the conjoined twin monster revealed complete duplication of body caudal to neck. Head and neck was single (Monocephalus) with grossly normal eyes and mouth, but ears were three in number. The two bodies were fused face to face with each other at the thorax (Thoracopagus). The monster had four fore limbs (Tetrabrachius) and four hind limbs (Tetrapus). Duplication of thoracic, abdominal and pelvic viscera was noticed. As per Roberts (1971) the condition could be classified as "Monocephalic, thoracopagus, tetrabrachius and tetrapus monster".

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