

DYSTOCIA DUE TO MONOCEPHALUS TETRABRACHIUS TETRAPUS THORACO-PAGUS DICAUDATUS MONSTER IN BUFFALO

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ABSTRACT

A buffalo suffering from fetal dystocia was examined and delivery of monocephalus tetrabrachius tetrapus thoraco-pagus dicaudatus monster by caesarean section is reported.

INTRODUCTION

Monstrosities often cause dystocia in farm animals (Bugalia *et al.*, 1990). Conjoined twins arise from a single ovum and are monozygotic (Arthur, 1956). Twin monsters are characterized by duplication of anterior, posterior or both parts of the fetal body. The present report describes a case of dystocia with monocephalus tetrabrachius tetrapus thoracopagus dicaudatus monster in buffalo.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

A pluriparous seven year old buffalo in her fourth parity was brought to Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex, Hisar suffering from dystocia. Four hind limbs of fetus were protruding from vulva.

Per-vaginum examination revealed a dead fetus in posterior presentation with four hind limbs in birth canal joined with two pelvises. Since per-vaginum delivery was not possible, it was decided to perform caesarean section.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Following caesarean section, a monocephalus tetrabrachius tetrapus thoraco-pagus dicaudatus

monster (Fig.) was delivered. Routine post operative antibiotic coverage and other supportive treatment were given. This type of monstrosity is due to congenital embryonic duplication of germinal layer arising from single ovum (Kumar and Reddy, 2008) giving rise to monozygotic foetus with partial duplication of body structures. This condition is common in cattle and buffalo (Bugalia *et al.*, 1990).



Fig. A MONOCEPHALUS TETRABRACHIUS TETRAPUS THORACO-PAGUS DICAUDATUS MONSTER

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