

## Dystocia due to *Dicephalus monstomus* monster in a crossbred cow

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### ABSTRACT

Dystocia due to *dicephalus monstomus* monster has been reported in a crossbred cow.

**Key words :** Dystocia, pregnant, monster

The incidence of foetal dystocia due to abnormal development and malformation of the antenatal individual is very common. However, *Dicephalus* with *monostomus* monster is occasionally seen in cattle and is very rare in sheep, pigs, dogs and cats (Roberts, 1971). Hence, the present report place a record on dystocia in a crossbred cow due to *dicephalus monostomus* monster.

**Case history and observations :** A pluriparous full term pregnant Jersey crossbred cow of Livestock Production and Management Farm, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal was presented with the history of active labour since last 4 hours. Local manipulations proved futile. Vaginal examination revealed fully dilated cervix. The foetal presentation ( $P_1$ ), position ( $P_2$ ) and posture ( $P_3$ ) were anterior longitudinal, dorso-sacral and extended forelimbs, respectively. Thorough examination of the foetus showed the presence of two heads and normal thorax.

**Delivery of the monster :** Under epidural anesthesia using 2 per cent lignocaine both the fore limbs were repelled into the uterus. Then, obstetrical hook was applied in the inner canthus of eye of one head and traction was applied in an oblique manner. The double head was brought outside the vulva and the fore limbs were extended. With the traction on the double head and fore limbs the monster was delivered.



Fig. 1 *Dicephalus monstomus* monster foetus

**Description of the monster :** The monster was a well developed male foetus weighed 32 kg. It was alive for 45 minutes after delivery. There was no evidence of duplication of neck, thorax and body except a head. Union of both the heads behind the ears was noticed (Fig. 1). Each head had two eyes, two ears and separate nostril. In the right side head, the lower jaw was under developed. Body of the foetus had no abnormality. These observations revealed that the monster was a *Dicephalus monostomus* as described by Roberts (1971).

### REFERENCES

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