

Scistocormus fissispinalis monster in a buffalo

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ABSTRACT

A case of scistocormus fissispinalis a rare case of its kind has been reported in buffalo.

Key words : Monster, Scistocormus fissispinalis, buffalo

Monsters are being reported by clinicians in farm animals. This reporting sometimes may be a repetition, but such information is important to know frequency of various kinds of monster. From the available reports, it appears that there is higher number of cases with duplication of parts (Sahu and Pandit, 1999). This report puts on records a less frequently reported monster classified as scistocormus fissispinalis on the basis of description given by Craig (1930).

A buffalo was brought to the Veterinary Clinics with the history of dystocia. On vaginal examination, fetal head and contracted forelimbs were palpated. All attempts to deliver per vaginam failed. The caesarean section was performed and a calf with contracted hindlimbs and protrusion of viscera from missing thoracic-spinal cord was delivered. The skin around the edges of opening was thick. Head appeared normal, but nose bone was prominent. The contracted fore- and hind limbs were touching each other and it was difficult to straighten them. Monster is defined as extensive deformities in organs of a fetus. In this particular case, there was extensive deformities on limbs, spinal cord, with evisceration. From the presence of viscera, outside the body cavity, one may consider it under

schistosoma reflexes, but there was missing spinal cord and there was no dorsiflexion of spinal cord. Moreover, the abdominal skin was intact. Therefore, this could not be included in schistosoma category of monsters. Due to missing spinal cord and contracted limbs, one may also consider it under perosomus elumbis, but this classification was ruled out because in this kind of monsters, the spinal cord, is generally found missing from the posterior end, but skin remains intact and the visceral organs do not protrude out (Chauhan and Verma, 1995; Kalasekar, 1996). Therefore, this monster was classified as scistocormus fissispinalis as per description given by Craig (1930), which is less frequently reported in buffaloes.

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ORBITUARY

Dr. H.C. Pant, Ex-Professor & Head, Department of Gynaecology & Obstetrics, College of Veterinary Sciences, Mathura and Ex-Advisor, SAG, NDDB, Anand has departed for heavenly abode on 15th September, 2003. The Editor, Editorial Board, Executive Committee and members of The Indian Society for Study of Animal Reproduction express their sincere condolences to his family.

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