

Dystocia due to Diplopagus Sternopagus conjoined twins in a buffalo

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ABSTRACT

Dystocia due to Diplopagus Sternopagus conjoined twins was relieved by caesarean section in a 9-year-old third lactation Murrah buffalo.

Key words : Dystocia, Diplopagus, Sternopagus, conjoined twins

Conjoined twins arise from a single ovum and occur one in 1,00,000 bovine births, the Sternopagus twins are joined at the sternal region with duplicated internal organs and they are face to face (Roberts, 1971). Monozygotic twins usually originate after implantation when the inner cell mass differentiates into two primitive streaks, giving rise to two identical twins (Hafez, 2000). The present communication describes dystocia due to Diplopagus Sternopagus conjoined twins in a buffalo.

A 9 year old, third lactation Murrah buffalo with a history of prolonged labor pains was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Service Complex, N.T.R. College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram. On vaginal examination under epidural anesthesia one dead foetus was palpated in posterior presentation with both the hind limbs extended into the roomy birth canal but the foetus could not be delivered by manual traction. On careful examination another pair of hind limbs could be palpated suggestive of a monster.

Caesarean section was performed under Xylazine sedation and local analgesia through left lateral oblique flank incision in a standard operative procedure and Diplopagus Sternopagus conjoined male dead twins were relieved; as both the fetuses were male they are presumably of



Fig. 1 Photograph showing Diplopagus Sternopagus conjoined twins

monozygotic origin (Fig.1). The buffalo had a uneventful recovery without any post-operative complications.

In the present case, as there was no history of monstrial births for the last 3 calvings, so it could be a case of teratogenic monster.

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