

Genital abnormalities in two cow heifers born as dizygotic heterosexual twins

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ABSTRACT

Genital abnormalities in two heifers born as coturn has been reported in the present paper

Key words : Genital abnormalities, cow heifers heterosexual twins

Intersexually or freemartinism syndrome occurs quite frequently in exotic cattle (Hare, 1980), but the incidence of this reproductive malady in Indian cattle seems to be sparse which might be because of rare reports. This condition represents anatomically either true hermaphroditism or male pseudohermaphroditism, depending on the extent to which the gonad has been masculinised by a factor from the male twin. It occurs only with vascular exchange between fetuses of unlike sex (Arthur *et al.*, 1992). This report intends to put on record two cases of intersexuality of Jersey x Red Sindhi crossbred heifers in Himachal Pradesh during infertility examination of more than one lakh cows over a period of 20 years.

Animal 1 : Externally the vulvar labiae were well developed. On per-rectal examination the internal genitalia comprised of two equal sized uterine horns of about one and a half inch in width, with a distinct bifurcation between them. The horns, however, terminated abruptly leading to absence of uterine body and cervix. On the lateral side of left horn, a small rounded structure, likely to be a hypoplastic ovary, could also be detected. There was no such structure on the contralateral side. All these contents were located at pelvic brim. On pervaginal passing of AI gun the cranial vagina was found to terminate abruptly into cul-de-sac at the normal position of the cervix. Colposcopy

disclosed a ring of tissue just a head of external urethral orifice. This was remnant of persistent hymen, which created stenosis of vagina thus preventing the insertion of hand.

Animal 2 : Alike the first animal, the vulvar labiae were well developed. per-rectally the internal genitalia was appreciated as distantly located paired tubes simulating vas-deferens. Adjacent to these on the lateral aspect, small and oval structures likely to be testicles could be appreciated. Colposcopy revealed a perforated persistent hymen and cul-de-sac.

Genital abnormalities in both the cows rendered them to be male pseudohermaphrodites. Observations closely resembling to the ones reported *ut supra* have been mentioned by Arthur *et al.* (1992) and Roberts (1971).

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