

Persomus monster in a she buffalo

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Received : March 25, 2004

Accepted : October 20, 2005

ABSTRACT

A case of *Persomus elumbis* in buffaloes was reported.

Key words: Fetal monster, buffaloes

The incidence of fetal dystocia due to monsters is common. However, the monstrosities occur sporadically in cattle than other species. The fetal monsters are believed to be raised due to adverse factors affecting the fetus in early stages of development. These factors are included physical, chemical and viral. The present paper is to place on record a case report of *Persomus elumbis* encountered in buffalo.

A buffalo was presented with history of dystocia and vaginal examination revealed extended fetal head into the birth canal. After careful palpation, the two rigid ankylosed fore limbs were palpated. Judicial traction was applied after generous lubrication of the birth canal with liquid paraffin and delivered the fetus.

The fetal head, neck and thorax was normally developed but all joints of neck and limbs were ankylosed. The lumbar vertebrae were rudimentary and rear quarter muscles were atrophied which might be due to lack of movement by developing fetus (Arthur *et al.*, 1996; Jackson, 1995). The fetus was confirmed as *Persomus elumbis* with ankylosed joints of neck and fore limbs (*horridus*) which might be due to complete contraction of muscles, tendons and ligaments as in *Persomus horridus* (Raju *et al.*, 1999). *Persomus elumbis* monsters were also recorded by Balasubraminam *et al.* (1991) and Kulasekar *et al.* (1996) with involving



Fig.1 *Persomus* monster in a she buffalo neck and fore limb joints.

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