

PEROSOMUS ELUMBIS IN SAHIWAL CALF: A CASE REPORT

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ABSTRACT

A rare case of dystocia due to Perosomuselumbis in a cow and its successful per vaginum has been reported

INTRODUCTION

Perosomuselumbis is an infrequently encountered congenital anomaly of unknown etiology. It is characterized by partial or complete lack of development of the spinal cord and vertebrae caudal to the thoracic area and accompanied by posterior bimeric arthrogyposis characterized by ankylosis of joints with associated malformations of the musculature. Affected calves cannot use their hind legs and must be destroyed. The defect is suspected to be inherited. A reduced number of vertebrae has been reported rarely but also has been claimed to be a genetic defect. The condition has also been reported in sheep, swine, dogs and pigs. (Roberts, 2004). A case of Perosomuselumbis in sahiwal calf is flaccid or round.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

A full term pregnant, sahiwal cow of age 4 years and 2nd parity was presented to at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Jehanabad (B A U sabour Bhagalpur), with the history of dystocia for 23 hours. With rupture of water bags about 12-15 hrs before the animal was presented.

The animal was dull, depressed, exhausted, and partially anorectic and the animal was straining severely, prior to presentation. Previous calving of the animal was reported to be normal. Per vaginal examination after proper lubrication that the fetus was in anterior longitudinal presentation, repulsion and deeper exploration revealed abnormal size of the fetus.

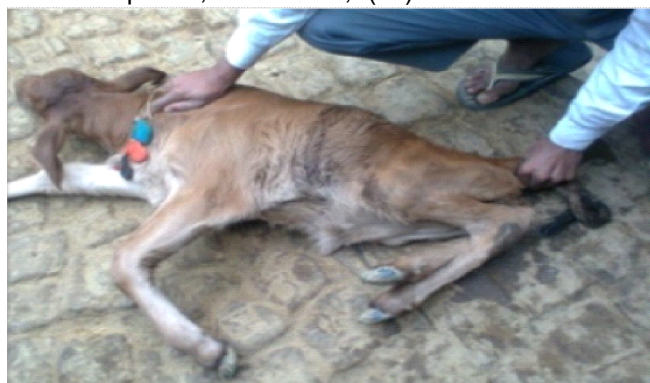
TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Under epidural anesthesia dystokia was reduced and a live calf was delivered per vaginal by manual lubrication on – the calf was found to the malformation weighing around 35 kg. The fetus had nearly normal forelimbs but with flexure and ankylosis of the hind limbs and shoulders along with vertebral and pelvic malformations suggestive of arthrogyposis of certain joint (Fig. No. 1). The limbs showed abnormality in that they were thickened in thigh region and felt doughy. Perosomuselumbis is seen occasionally in cattle and swine and is characterized by vertebrae and spinal cord caudal to the thoracic region. The monster has a small, flattened and deformed pelvis with strongly ankylosed and flexed hind limbs and atrophy of the muscles of the rear quarters (Roberts, *loc.cit*). Living calves appear normal at birth but are unable to stand because of incompletely formed muscles, ligaments, tendons, and joints. The shoulder and hip joints can be rotated in any direction without apparent discomfort. Diagnosis is based

on signs, necropsy findings, and identification of carrier animals. In most of the cases surgery is the ultimate option for the management of Perosomuselumbis as suggested by Testoniet *al.* (2005). These findings simulate with those of Son *et al.*, (2008) and Marrow, (1986) in Holstein calf which was successfully treated by surgery. The surgical treatment was adopted as per the standard procedure outlined by Kumar (1996) and Tiwari *et al.* (2011) Thus, it is concluded that Perosomuselumbis is a rare condition leading to dystocia necessitating per vaginum..

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