

A RARE CASE OF BULL DOG FETAL MONSTER IN A NON DESCRIPTIVE SHE BUFFALOE

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Abstract: A Case of dystocia due to bull dog fetus in a six years old third parity non descriptive buffalo was detailed in the present report. The full term non descriptive buffalo was presented with the complaint of straining since 10 hrs. After careful physical, clinical, per vaginal examination the case was diagnosed as dystocia due to incomplete dilatation of cervix and presence of abnormal fetus in the birth canal. Following epidural anesthesia dystocia was successfully managed by per vaginal delivery and its recovery is reported.

Keywords: Buffalo, dystocia, bull dog fetus.

INTRODUCTION

Teratological defects in the ovum (or) embryo (or) fetus may result in death (or) malformations of the antenatal individual, resulting in dystocia (Roberts, 1971). Various kinds of foetal anomalies and monstrosities have been recorded in bovines (Roberts, 2004; Noakes et al., 2001) and occur sporadically (Arthur et al., 1989). Commonly encountered fetal monsters which predisposes to dystocia are hydrocephalic, anasarctous or ascitic fetus, or monsters with marked skeletal defects include schistosomus reflexus, campylorrhachis scoliosa, perosomus elumbis or conjoined twins and achondroplastic fetuses. These anomalies are believed to be occur due to adverse factors affecting the fetus during early stages of development.

Chondrodysplasia is one of the main causes of dystocia in animals (Sloss and Dufty, 1980). Its occurrence is very rare (Noakes et al., 2001; Roberts, 2004) and it may be due to disturbance of endochondral ossification leading to disordered bone development (Gentile and Testoni, 2006). Although, several types of chondrodysplasia are known, the most common form is Bulldog calf.

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A bulldog (achondroplastic) fetal monster is a deformed foetus, with compressed skull, flat head with sloping or bulged forehead and short nose divided by furrows, shortened upper jaw with short and stumpy limbs (micromelia), giving a bulldog facial appearance (Gentele and Testoni, 2006; Pandey et al, 2010).

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

A Six year old full term pregnant third parity non descriptive buffalo was presented to the teaching veterinary clinical complex (TVCC), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad with the history of continuous straining since last 10 hrs and decreased feed and water intake. Clinical examination revealed slightly raised temperature (102°F) and pulse (90/min) with pale mucous membranes. On physical examination edema of the external genitalia was noticed and per vaginal examination revealed partially dilated cervix and presence of abnormally short live fetus in the anterior presentation was noticed.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

In any dystocia case a careful examination of the fetus should be made for signs of monster such as deformed limbs, ankylosed thin limbs with prominent joints, improper location of the fetal extremities and smaller size of the fetus etc. In the present case after thorough physical and per vaginal examination the decision was taken out to relieve the dystocia by manual traction. Following epidural anesthesia (10ml, 2% lignocaine hydrochloride), cervix was manually dilated and birth canal was well lubricated with carboxy methyl cellulose sodium@20 gr/L luke warm water. After that fetal head and limbs were hold pervaginally and ropes were applied to the abnormally short limbs. By manual traction the live male fetus was delivered, fetus was died immediately 10 mins after birth. The dam was treated with 5% Dextrose normal saline 5 lits IV, Intacef(Ceftriaxone)-3 gms (IM), Melonex(Meloxicam)-0.2 mg/kg b.wt (IM), Anistamin(Chlorpheniramine maleate)-10 ml (IM) for 3 days. An uneventful recovery of the dam was noticed thereafter.

Grossly, on physical examination the dead male fetus weighing 17 kgs having large head with bulged forehead, small eyes, prognathism of the lower jaw, short neck with abnormally short limbs (micromelia) and under developed tail. Based on the above characters the fetus was identified as bull dog fetus. Similar types of findings were recorded earlier in cattle (Harper et al., 1998; Kumar et al., 2007) and buffaloes (Christopher, 2000).



Fig 1 & 2 - Bull dog fetus

Sometimes Bulldog fetus may be confused with foetal anasarca in which there is accumulation of fluid in the subcutaneous tissues and body cavities (Arthur et al., 1989; Roberts, 2004). However in the present case there was no accumulation of subcutaneous fluid was noticed.

Even though the dystocia due to bull dog calf is rare, it has been reported in cows (Yadav et al., 2014, Senthil Kumar et al., 2014) buffaloes (Pandey et al., 2010; Singh et al, 2012) and in ewes (Manokaran et al, 2013). This condition is generally considered to be due to a simple, autosomal recessive gene defect with some modifiers (Roberts, 2004).

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