

CASE STUDY

Dystocia in a Crossbred Cow due to Diprosopus Monster Fetus

S S Dhindsa*, Navgeet Singh, Ankit Kumar Ahuja and Randhir Singh

Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, College of Veterinary Science,
Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana, INDIA-141004

*Corresponding Author's E-mail: shahbazdhindsa76@yahoo.co.in

ABSTRACT

The present case report records an instance of dystocia in a crossbred primiparous cow due to diprosopus monster fetus and its successful obstetrical management through fetotomy.

Keywords: Cow, Diprosopus monster, Dystocia, Fetotomy.

Received 15.01.2018 Accepted 01.04.2018

© 2018 AELS, INDIA

INTRODUCTION

Fetal anomalies and monstrosities have been reportedly known to cause dystocia in bovines[1]. Monstrosities are associated with either infectious diseases or congenital defects [2] and may or may not interfere with normal birth process. When these fetal monstrosities result in dystocia, fetotomy provides a good and feasible alternative over caesarean section [3]. Moreover, duplication of cranial portion of fetus is more commonly observed than caudal portion [4]. This paper reports dystocia in a cow due to diprosopus fetus which was successfully relieved through fetotomy.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS

Dystocia at full term in a crossbred primiparous cow was presented at Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex of university premises in Ludhiana. As per history, water bags had ruptured six hours ago and animal was straining since then with unsuccessful delivery attempts. Visibly, limbs of fetus were coming out through vulva. Per-vaginal examination revealed anterior longitudinal presentation with the presence of two heads on a single neck thus suggestive of fetus being a diprosopus monster.



Fig. 1: Diprosopus heads**Fig. 2: Diprosopus monster fetus post delivery**

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Considering the fetus as diprosopus monster, it was decided to relieve dystocia through fetotomy. Following epidural anaesthesia with 2% Lignocaine hydrochloride (5 ml) solution and ample lubrication using 1% sodium carboxy methyl cellulose solution, fetotomy was performed at the level of neck to

remove the heads of fetus. Rest of the fetus was delivered by moderate traction at forelimbs. Following delivery, it was found that fetus was of male sex with duplication of face only, having rest of body normal. Post-obstetrical treatment involved parenteral administration of antibiotics, anti-inflammatory, analgesics, hemostatics, calcium magnesium borogluconate and multivitamins along with intra-venous fluid. The animal made an uneventful recovery.

Diprosopus is also called as craniofacial duplication which is an extremely rare congenital disorder whereby parts of face or whole of the face is duplicated on head. These embryonic duplications are malformation due to abnormal duplication of the germinal area giving rise to fetuses whose body structures are partially duplicated. It has been stated that the causes of many congenital anomalies are essentially unknown; however, the important known causes are prenatal infection with a virus, poisons ingested by mother, vitamin deficiency (A and folic acid), genetic factors and/or combination of these factors [5].

REFERENCES

1. Shukla SP, Garg UK, Pandey A, Dwivedi DP and Nema SP (2007). Conjoined twin monster in a buffalo. *Ind. Vet. J.* 84: 630-631.
2. Arthur GH, Noakes DE, Pearson H and Parkinson TJ (2001). *Veterinary Reproduction and Obstetrics*, 8th ed. WB Saunders Co. Ltd., London. pp 118.
3. Vermunt J (2009). Fetotomy. In: *Veterinary Reproduction and Obstetrics*. Noakes DE, Parkinson TJ and England GCW (eds) Saunders Elsevier, Ninth Edition, Oxford. pp 214.
4. Roberts SJ (2004). *Veterinary Obstetrics and Genital Diseases*, 2nd ed. CBS Publishers, New Delhi. India.
5. Jones TC and Hunt RD (1983). *Veterinary Pathology*, 5th ed. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia. pp 115.

CITE THIS ARTICLE

S S Dhindsa, Navgeet Singh, A K Ahuja and R Singh. Dystocia in a Crossbred Cow due to Diprosopus Monster Fetus. *Res. J. Chem. Env. Sci.* Vol 6 [2] April 2018. 92-93