

AMORPHOUS GLOBOSUS MONSTER IN A BUFFALO-A CASE REPORT

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SUMMARY

Amorphous globosus monster was removed from the buffalo by caesarean section. The anomalous mass showed no distinction in internal features and development of any organ systems.

Key words: Monster, amorphous globosus, buffalo

Incidence of fetus amorphous globosus is rare in domestic animals. This anomaly is believed to be the result of a twin pregnancy in which the co-twin is usually normal, viable and generally born first (Hafez and Hafez, 2000). In general, the amorphous globosus consists of a mass of connective tissue and fat covered by skin and hairs. Occasionally cartilage and bone may be present. Singh *et al.* (2009) reported an amorphous globosus co-twin to be a normal male fetus. According to Robert (1986), amorphous globosus is an asymmetrical spherical mass covered with skin and without a functional heart and is attached with the placenta of a normal twin. A case of amorphous globosus in a buffalo is reported here.

A buffalo of full term pregnancy was presented to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Complex of this University with the history of straining and labor pain since last night. The buffalo was handled by a field veterinarian for delivery of the fetus by manual manipulations without success. Clinical examination revealed edematous, swollen, injured vulvar lips and a bloody vaginal discharge. On vaginal examination a fully dilated cervix without any fluid in the uterus was observed. Further uterine exploration revealed the presence of a round shaped structure without any palpable extremities. Based on the clinical examination, the case was tentatively diagnosed as dystocia due to a monster.

The fetus was delivered through caesarean section by giving incision lateral and parallel to milk vein. The

fetus was spherical mass covered with a thick membrane and as per the characteristics the fetus was diagnosed as amorphous globosus. The fetus was covered with pigmented skin with few hairs (Fig. 1) and had several soft tissue protuberances that appeared as undifferentiated limbs and head.

During the caesarian section, the animal was administered 5L of dextrose saline, metrogyl (600 ml) and oxytocin (75 IU) intravenously, and Amoxicillin+Cloxacillin combination 4.5gm and meloxicam 30 ml intramuscularly. The animal was discharged after the removal of the fetus and the owner was advised to continue the treatment for 5 days and antiseptic dressing of the wound for 7 days.

Such type of monster had been reported by Zobel (2011) in a Holstein-Friesian cow. Nourani and Shirazi

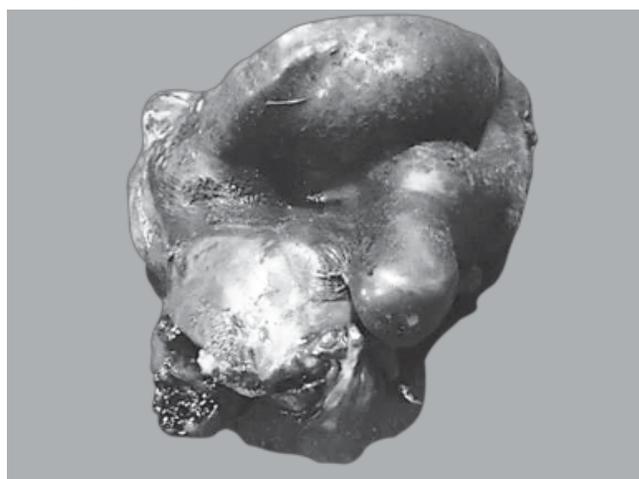


Fig 1. Photograph showing amorphous globosus removed by caesarean section from a buffalo

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(2009) also reported a case of amorphous fetus along with the delivery of two normal calves in a cow. This monster has also been reported in goat (Anwar *et al.*, 2009) and mare (Crossman and Dicken, 1974). It is generally believed that due to anastomosis of artery to artery and vein to vein, a reversed circulation in the amorphous twin leads to the obliteration of the heart anlage (Poullis *et al.*, 2004). Since there were no discernible cardiac elements, it is hypothesized that the insult occurred during the first month of gestation.

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