

BULL DOG CALF AND PEROCEPHALUS AGNATHUS MONSTERS IN BUFFALOES

U. S. MEHRA, R. CHAUDHARY, R. K. CHANDOLIA¹, R. CHANDER
and R. A. LUTHRA

Department of Animal Reproduction, Gynaecology and Obstetrics
College of Veterinary Sciences, CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar-125 004

SUMMARY

Two fetuses were delivered per vaginam by manipulations and forced traction from two buffaloes having dystocia. The fetuses had multiple abnormalities but had close resemblance to bull dog calf and perocephalus agnathus monsters.

Key words: Monster, buffalo, bull dog calf, perocephalus agnathus

Monstrosities often lead to dystocia in farm animals. Various types of monsters have been reported in buffaloes (Bugalia *et al.*, 1990). The present report puts on record rare kinds of monsters in buffaloes.

Case 1: A buffalo with full term gestation was referred to the Teaching Veterinary Clinical Service Complex (TVCS) of the University. On per vaginal examination, a dead fetus in posterior presentation, having stumpy feet and rudimentary tail was palpable. The calf was delivered with forced traction. On delivery, the calf was found to have a round head with deformed jaw, proportionally large ears, short and stumpy limbs (14 cm in length) and short tail (0.5 cm in length). The calf with a crown rump length of 48 cm was devoid of anal opening and external genital organs. There were two pairs of rudimentary teats on either side of swollen mass, separated by a slit in between (Fig 1). On incising the body, the abdomen was found to contain a lot of yellowish fat and water and had enlarged liver (Fig 2). The fetus had some resemblance to a bull dog calf.

Case 2: A buffalo with full term gestation was referred to TVCS of the University by a field veterinarian after conducting preliminary examination. On vaginal examination, fetus was found to be in posterior presentation with

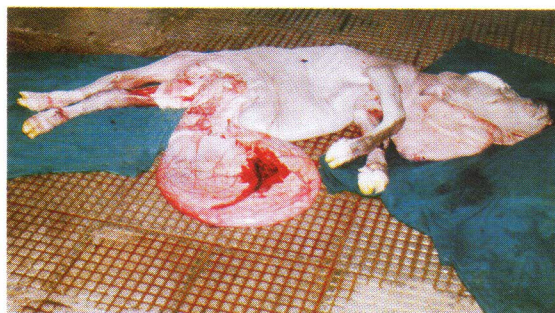


Fig 1. Bull dog calf monster.



Fig 2. Bull dog calf monster with distended abdomen.

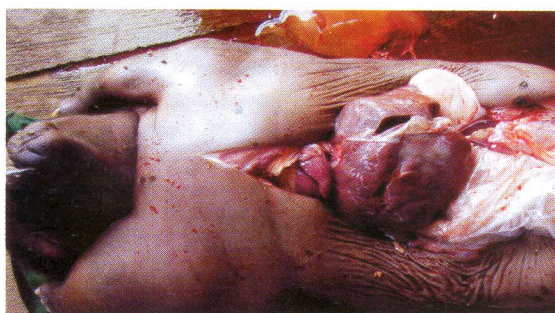


Fig 3. Perocephalus agnathus monster.

¹ Corresponding author

enlarged abdomen which was suspected for ascitis. During forced traction, as the fetus stuck from the abdomen, an incision was given on abdomen causing escape of lot of fluid and per vaginal delivery was possible. The fetus thus delivered had a lump of skin in the neck region, and bones from the lower jaw were missing (Fig 3). This monster was classified as perocephalus agnathus monster with ascites and lumpy neck.

Various kinds of monsters have been reported in buffaloes, however, majority of them are conjoined twins (Bugalia *et al.*, 1990). Bull dog calf monsters and perocephalus agnathus are rare in buffaloes. A case of bull dog calf has been reported in a buffalo that classified as achondroplasia case (Kaushal and Sharma, 2004). In most of monsters, multiple body deformities are present and the monster is named

after a major deformity (Kaushal and Sharma, 2004). Monsters, under report also had some additional deformities, making them rare kind of monsters in buffaloes.

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