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MANAGEMENT OF DYSTOCIA DUE TO DICEPHALUS TETRABRACHIUS ISCHIOPAGUS TETRAPUS DICAUDATUS MONSTER IN GRADED MURRAH BUFFALO

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ABSTRACT

Dystocia due to dicephalus tetrabrachius ischiopagus tetrapus dicaudatus monster was relived pervaginally by forced extraction in a graded Murrah buffalo and it is reported.

Keywords: *Bubalus bubalis*, buffaloes, conjoined twins, dystocia, fetus, ischiopagus

INTRODUCTION

Embryonic duplication is the major congenital defects which occur due to imperfect duplication of germinal area leading to partial or complete duplication of the body structures (Prakash *et al*., 2018). Conjoined twins originate from a single fertilized ovum, and they are monozygotic. They develop when incomplete separation occurs after the development of the embryonic plate at 8 days (Ravikumar *et al*., 2012). It was estimated that conjoined twins contributed 2.2 to 10% of all fetal anomalies in cattle and have been reported earlier in cow (Chandrahasan *et al*., 2003; Alagar *et al*., 2018) and buffalo (Selvaraju *et al*., 2002). Duplication of cranial portion of the fetus was more common than that of caudal aspect (Alagar *et al*., 2018). Hence, a rare case report of dystocia due to dicephalus tetrabrachius ischiopagus tetrapus dicaudatus monster in graded Murrah buffalo is reported.

CASE HISTORY AND CLINICAL OBSERVATION

Full term pregnant pluriparous graded Murrah buffalo on its 3rd gestation was presented with the history of dystocia for the past 8 h. The case was attended by a field veterinarian but failed to deliver the fetus. On clinical examination, the buffalo was in standing posture, and it was dull and depressed. All the physiological parameters were within the normal range. Vaginal examination revealed complete cervical dilatation, and the fetus was in anterior longitudinal presentation (P1), dorso-sacral position (P2) and extended fore limbs (P3). Since the P1, P2 and P3 was normal, it was decided to give traction.

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Figure 1. Dicephalus tetrabrachius ischiopagus tetrapus dicaudatus monster in graded Murrah buffalo.

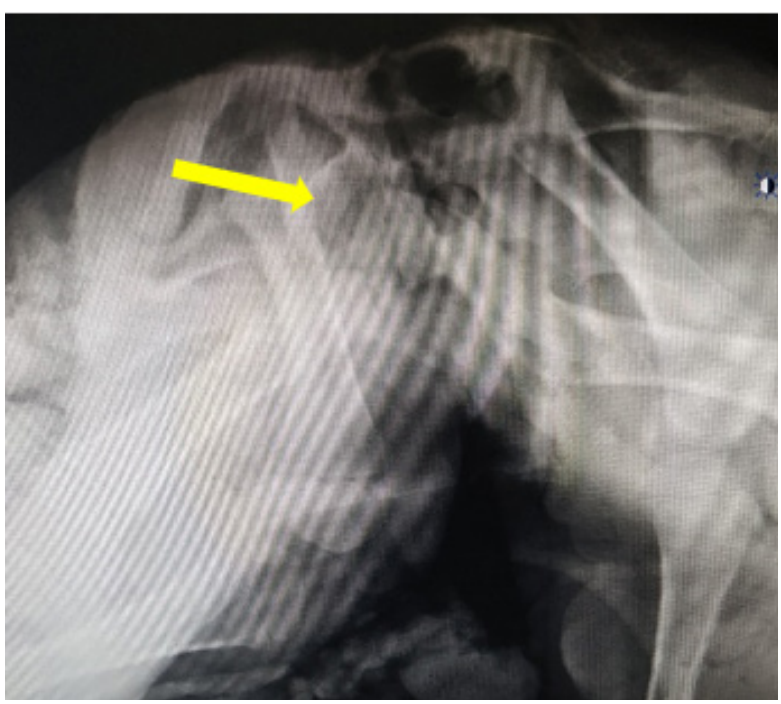

Figure 2. Radiograhpic image of ischiopagus monster.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

After epidural anaesthesia with 2% lignocaine hCl the buffalo was placed in the hindquarter elevator. Vaginal passage and the fetus were lubricated with cetrimide cream. Snare was applied over the fetlock joint and long obstetrical hook was applied in the left inner canthus. By one man traction head was brought outside the vulva and both the fore limbs were taken out by simple traction. Then, the free ends of the snare were connected with calf puller. By traction with calf puller, a dead conjoined monster fetus (Figure 1) was delivered.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MONSTER

The foetus was a conjoined twin monster, and it had symmetrical component body parts (Diplopagus). The monster was fully developed and had duplication (Figure 2) at the pelvic region (Ischiopagus). There were about four fore limbs (Tetrabrachius) and four hind limbs (tetrapus). Hence, this was a rare case of dystocia in a buffalo due to Dicephalus Tetrabrachius Ischiopagus Tetrapus Dicaudatus monster as per the classification of Roberts (1971). In the present case, by traction with calf puller, fetus was delivered through the vaginal passage. Similarly, conjoined monster was delivered by partial fetotomy following traction in a buffalo (Selvaraju *et al*., 2002) and mutation and traction in a cow (Prakash *et al*., 2018). Ravikumar *et al.* (2012) performed caesarean section to deliver the dicephalus tetrabrachius thoracopagus tetrapus dicaudatus monster in a Jersey crossbred cow. In the present report, the duplication of fetus occurred at the level of pelvis, and it did not cause increased width of the pelvis and hence it did not cause difficulty in vaginal delivery.

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