

LINGUALLY CONJOINED AMORPHOUS GLOBOSUS FETAL MONSTER IN A GRADED MURRAH BUFFALO

Raju Sreeranjani^{1,*}, Mani Selvaraju², Venkatraman Varudharajan³,
Subramanian Prakash¹ and Mani Periyannan⁴

Received: 27 January 2025

Accepted: 02 April 2026

ABSTRACT

An unusual case of lingually conjoined amorphous globosus fetal monster in a graded Murrah buffalo has been recorded for the first time.

Keywords: *Bubalus bubalis*, buffaloes, amorphous globosus, teratology, dystocia, conjoined twin, fetal monster

INTRODUCTION

Amorphous globosus is an asymmetrical round mass of connective tissue and fat with unfunctional heart, covered with skin and hairs born co-twin to a normal viable fetus (Roberts, 1986; Hafez and Hafez, 2000). Amorphous globosus (ag) fetuses are rarely reported in domestic animals, but the majority of recently documented cases were found in cattle, as well as in goats and buffaloes (Anwar *et al.*, 2009; Dutt *et al.*, 2020; Singh *et al.*, 2014; Gehrke *et al.*, 2019; Kumar *et al.*,

2016). According to Roberts (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. In the present case, an asymmetrical spherical mass covered with skin and hair without a functional heart (amorphous globosus) was found attached to the tongue of the co-twin and hence reported.

CASE HISTORY AND CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS

A graded Murrah buffalo on its fourth gestation was reported with the history of animal was full term pregnant with prolonged second stage labor and unable to deliver the fetus. General clinical parameters were normal. Vaginal examination revealed fully dilated cervix with (P1) anterior longitudinal presentation, (P2) dorso-sacral position and (P3) left lateral deviation of head and neck. Further, it revealed that the fetus had a round unusual mass in the head which

¹Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Tamil Nadu, India,

*E-mail: sreeranjaniivpy@gmail.com

²Veterinary College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Tamil Nadu, India

³Veterinary Dispensary, Kulithalai, India

⁴Veterinary Dispensary, Thondi, India

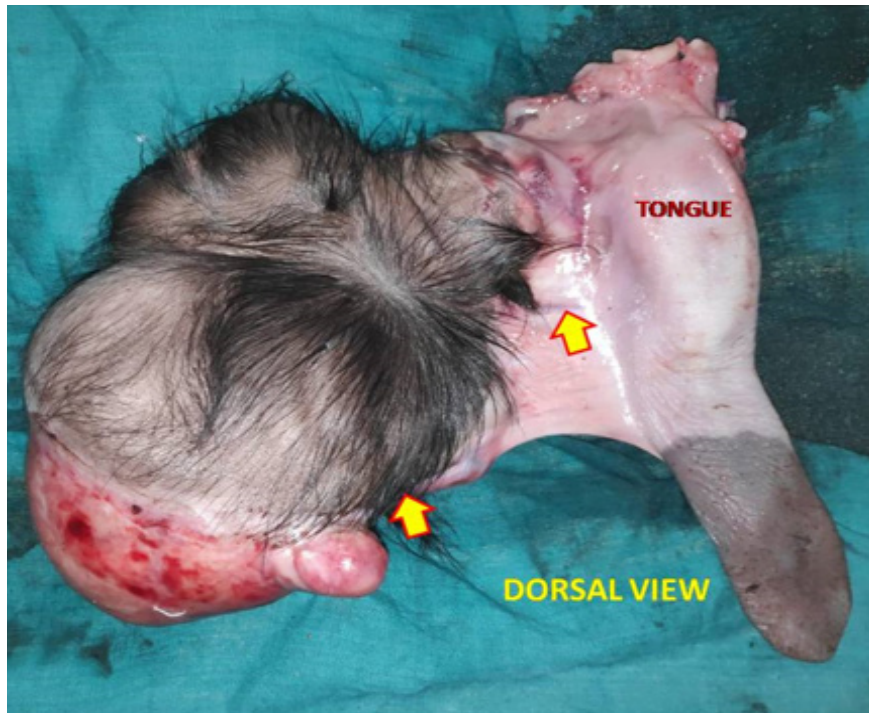


Figure 1. Dorsal view of Amorphus globosus fetus in the tongue of the normal fetus.

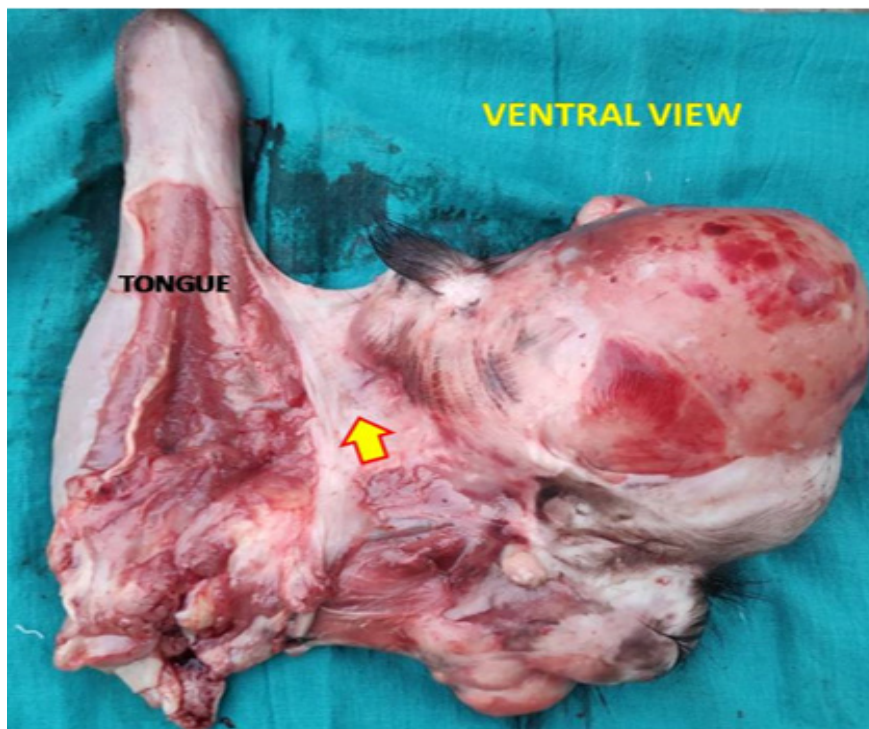


Figure 2. Ventral view of Amorphus globosus fetus in the tongue of the normal fetus.



Figure 3. Amorphus globosus fetus attached to the tongue of the normal fetus.



Figure 4. Amorphus globosus fetus attached to the tongue of the normal fetus.

hindered normal parturition.

TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

The buffalo was restrained epidurally with 4 ml of 2% Lignocaine HCl. The forelimbs were repelled away from the maternal pelvis, and a long obstetrical hook was inserted into the left eye socket and traction was applied. Thus, the lateral deviation of head was corrected. Further, a round unusual mass in the head was found. It was lubricated thoroughly and gently brought outside the birth canal by traction. The fetal membranes shed normally. Upon examination of the fetus, it was found to have been conjoined with an asymmetrical spherical mass covered with skin and hair found nourished by attachment in the tongue (Figure 3 and 4). Later, to confirm the nourishment of the amorphous structure, the tongue of the fetus was cut (Figure 1 and 2). The buffalo was treated with antibiotics (Enrofloxacin 7.5 mg/kg b.wt IM), antihistamines (Pheniramine maleate 100 mg IM), Oxytocin 25 IU IM, Calcium borogluconate 450 mL IV and followed up with antibiotics, NSAIDs and antihistamines for 3 more days. The buffalo recovered uneventfully.

Gehrke *et al.* (2019) stated that Amorphous foetuses in animals usually do not occur by themselves but nearly always coexist with a living or dead co-twin or with co-multiples, which do not show any phenotypic malformations. Roberts (1986) stated that amorphous globosus usually appears as a round or oval, edematous structure covered with skin and hair containing connective tissue, fat and other soft tissues attached by a stalk containing blood vessels to the placenta of a normal fetus. But, in the reported case, the amorphous globosus was structurally similar but

unusually found attached by a stalk to the tongue of the normal fetus. Thus, this case report could be the first report documented the occurrence of amorphous globosus conjoined fetal monster in the tongue of the normal co-twin.

REFERENCES

- Anwar, M.T., A.I. Khan, S. Balasubramanian, R. Jayaprakash, T.A. Kannan, S. Manokaran, S.A. Asokan and C. Veerapandian. 2009. A rare case of globosus amorphus in a goat. *Canadian Vet. J.*, **50**(8): 854-856.
- Dutt, R., V. Arjun and R. Niwas. 2020. Surgical delivery of amorphous globosus monster in a Murrah buffalo. *Livestock Research International*, **8**(3): 84-85.
- Hafez, E.S.E. and B. Hafez. 2000. Genetics of reproductive failure. In *Reproduction in Farm Animals*, 7th ed. Wiley- Blackwell, Philadelphia, USA.
- Kumar, S., G.N. Purohit, M.K. Pushp and M.K. Meena. 2016. Dystocia due to globosus amorphous in Marwari goat- A case report. *Journal of Livestock Science*, **7**: 65-67.
- Gehrke, M., B. Blaszkak, M. Stachowiak, I. Szczerbal, B. Stefanska, J.M. Jaskowski, W. Nowak and M. Switonski. 2019. Amorphous globosus foetuses in Polish Holstein cattle: Anatomical, histological, and genetic studies. *J. Vet. Res.*, **63**(3): 391-398. DOI: 10.2478/jvetres-2019-0057
- Roberts, S.J. 1986. Gestation period - Embryology, fetal membrane and placenta-teratology. In *Veterinary Obstetrics and Genital Diseases*, 3rd ed. Woodstock, Vermont, USA.
- Singh, G., A.K. Pandey, S. Kumari, P. Kumar, V. Devender, V. Yadav and P.K. Mishra. 2014.

Amorphous globosus monster in a buffalo
- A case report. *Haryana Veterinarian*, **53**:
160-161.