Case Report

AN UNUSUAL CASE OF MUCOMETRA IN A CROSSBRED ONGOLE HEIFER: A CASE REPORT

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INTRODUCTION
Mucometra is a condition which is characterized by the accumulation of mucus of variable consistency and amounts in the endometrial cavity of uterine horns with a thin uterine wall, persistent corpus luteum and suppression of estrous cycle. Mucometra was reported in cattle, goats, horses and dogs with an estimated incidence of 1.78% in cows (Al-Dahash SYA et al., 1972). An unusual case of mucometra associated with persistent corpus luteum was described in cows (Roberts and Fox, 1968). In cows mucometra is usually incurable and hence is not advisable to breed such cows/heifers. The present study involves a case report of mucometra managed with hormonal therapy.

CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATIONS
A crossbred Ongole heifer of eight years age was presented for pregnancy diagnosis (Cyesiognosis). The per rectal examination revealed dorsal bulging of uterus with no definite signs of pregnancy and the same was reexamined after one month without any increase in size. Rectal examination showed closed cervix with tonic uniform uterus without fremitus and corpus luteum. Real time ultrasonography with 7.5 MHz linear array transducer revealed no cotyledons/fetal structures except with moderately hyper echoic luminal fluids. Presuming the dorsal bulging as accumulation of mucometra/hydrometra evacuation was induced using 25 mg of Dinoprost tromethamine and 30 mg Dexamethasone intramuscularly. The animal has voided 800 mL of gummy mucus discharges after 3 days.

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with moderately hyper-echoic luminal fluids (Figures 1 and 2). Hence the condition was tentatively diagnosed as Hydrometra/ Mucometra.

**TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION**

The heifer was administered 25 mg of Dinoprost (inj Lutalyse M/s- Pfizer) and Dexamethasone 30 mg intramuscularly. Three days following this treatment, the owner observed expulsion of 800 mL of moderately gummy, clear, copious mucus discharge and also at the time of per rectal examination.

On the basis of ultrasonic examination and voiding of lumps of mucus, it was identified as mucometra. In this case, development of mucometra could be secondary to long standing cystic ovarian degeneration leading to cystic endometrial hyperplasia and atrophy of the uterine wall there by accumulation of mucus from 3 to 5 L (Roberts, 1971). In the present case the cervix is extremely small with longitudinal dilatation. The uterine horns are hard to palpate. The locking up of uterine contents results in distension of one or both horns with coagulated masses of mucus and cellular debris which may be confused for pregnancy (Sane, 1994).

Sometimes the ovaries may be normal and estrus would be exhibited as usual. The actual cause of the condition could be revealed only by sacrificing the animal which is not possible. Sometimes it could be associated with hereditary conditions such as arrested development of mullerian duct system, segmental aplasia of the uterus (uterus unicornis).

**CONCLUSION**

Though Mucometra condition has very low incidence, its occurrence is correlated to hereditary conditions like hypoplasia of mullerian duct and segmental aplasia of uterus, etc. Hence, it is economical to cull the animal once it is diagnosed.

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**REFERENCES**


