

OBSTETRICAL DISORDERS IN BUFFALO COWS

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INTRODUCTION

Obstetrical disorders constitute a major problems of reproduction which contribute towards the poor reproductive performance of the female. Mishandling or malhandling of the condition results invariably in permanent damage in the reproductive organs and makes the animals incapables of further parturitions. Although incidence of obstetrical disorders in cows has been studied by many workers of different countries, much less about this is known in buffaloes. In Brazil, no detailed information is available on obstetrical disorders in this species. In the present study an attempt has made to determine the cause and incidence of this disorders in buffalo females in Amazon region.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During the eight years period (1985 to 1992) a total of 478 buffalo females (176 primiparus and 302 pluriparus) with problems at time of parturition were clinically examined. A data was registred in individual proper fishs containing the identification of the sick animal and the diagnostic of clinical examination, according (1). The animals, all crossbred Murrah/Mediterranean and belongings to Agroforest Research Center of Oriental Amazon (EMBRAPA-CPATU), located in Pará State - Brazil, were reared under uniform managemant.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The average incidence of various types of obstetrical problems is presented in Table 1. Prolapse of vagina (38.75 %) and retention of placenta (31.79 %) were the most common problems identified in pluriparus females. Metritis is a common sequel of that obstetrical disorders. It is result in reproductive failure and thereby cause considerable economic losses to the farmers. In primiparus buffaloes, cervico-vaginovulvar lesions (31.25 %) and dystocia (27.84 %) were the most big problems observed. Usually dystocia is due to abnormal position or posture of the foetus (56.62 %), torcion of the uterus (27.72 %), caquexia (9.64 %) and embriopaties (6.02 %). In cases of dystocia due to fetal causes, lateral desviation of the head and neck and retained forelimbs were the major causes. This findings was almost agreement with that to (2). According to (3), (4) and (5), uterine torcion is the major cause of dificuly birth in buffaloes. The total of the females with presented dystocia 7 primiparus (14.28 %) and 4 pluriparus (11.76 %) died during the parturition.

Index terms: Reproductive disease, Female pathology, Genital system, Calving disorder.

Table 1 - Obstetrical disorders incidence in 176 primiparus and 302 pluriparus buffalo females (1985-1992).

Disorders	Primiparus		Pluriparus	
	No	%	No	%
Cervico-vaginovulvar lesion	55	31.25	23	7.61
Dystocia	49	27.84	34	11.25
Retained placenta	31	17.61	96	31.79
Vaginal prolapse	30	17.05	117	38.75
Vagino-cervical prolapse	7	3.98	23	7.61
Stillbirth	4	2.27	7	2.32
Utero prolapse	-	-	2	0.67
Total	176	100.00	302	100.00

In 8 primiparus (16.32 %) and 3 pluriparus (8.82 %) was necessary cesarian section. The birth weight of calf had significant influence on incidence of dystocia and vagino-cervical prolapse. It was highest in females carring calves weighing more than 35 kg at birth weight. According to (6), the higher incidence of vaginal prolapse in buffaloes compared to cows is probably due to more relaxation of vulvar lips and hind quarter muscles. Retained placenta is a very insidious disease which leads to uterine infection and infertility of buffaloes. The principal aetiological factor of these condition is the brucellosis. This findings was almost agreement with to (7). The principal cervico-vaginovulvar lesions was the injuries and lacerations of the cervix and vulva. The incidence of stillbirth was highest in buffalo females with gestation period are more than 305 days, weighing less than 400 kg at the time of calving and with giving birth to calves weighing more than 40 kg. The females wich experienced utero prolapse showed endometritis, utero adhesions, repeat breeding and anestrus conditions.

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