

# **DYSTOCIA DUE TO PRESENTATION, POSITION & POSTURE**

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# DYSTOCIA DUE TO FETOMATERNAL DISPROPORTION: TREATMENT (IN CATTLE)

- ✖ Major cause of dystocia in cattle, with a considerable variation in the degree;
- ✖ Can be marginal or severe,
- ✖ Severe: Very immature heifer or pathological enlargement of the fetus, with fetal giantism (embryos derived from (IVM) or (IVF) or prolonged gestation, or fetal monsters such as conjoined twins

# FETO-MATERNAL DISPROPORTION

- ✖ It may be overcome in one of the following ways:
- ✓ Normal expulsive forces may be supplemented by **External Traction** on the fetus.
- ✓ Diameter of the vulval opening may be increased by **Episiotomy**.
- ✓ The fetus may be removed by a **Caesarean Operation**.
- ✓ The volume of the fetus may be reduced by **Fetotomy** (originally referred to as embryotomy), i.e. dismemberment of its body within the uterus and vagina, and the fetus removed in several parts. Fetotomy is applied only when fetus is dead.

# DYSTOCIA DUE TO POSTURAL DEFECTS: ANT.

## PRESENTATION

- Carpal flexion posture
- Incomplete extension of the elbow(s)
- Shoulder flexion posture; complete retention of the forelimb(s)
- Lateral deviation of the head: Commonest form of dystocia in Ruminants
- Downward displacement of the head: uncommon type of dystocia in cattle
  - Vertex Posture: Calf's nose abuts on the pubic brim and the brow is directed into the pelvis
  - Nape Presentation: More severe varieties of downward deviation of the head,
  - Breasthead Posture: in which the head is flexed vertically between the forelimbs – are rare in cattle

# DYSTOPIA DUE TO POSTURAL DEFECTS: POST. PRESENTATION

- Hock flexion posture
- Hip flexion posture: Bilateral is Known as Breech Presentation

## DYSTOCIA DUE TO POSITION DEFECTS:

- Abnormal position of the fetus is encountered more frequently in horses than in cattle.
- Anterior presentation, lateral position
- Anterior presentation, ventral position
- Posterior presentation, lateral position
- Posterior presentation, ventral position

# DYSTOCIA DUE TO PRESENTATION DEFECTS:

- Oblique vertical presentation occurs rarely, in mares rather than cows.
  - ✓ Oblique dorsovertical presentation
  - ✓ Oblique ventrovertical presentation ('dog-sitting position')
  - ✓ Dorso-transverse presentation
  - ✓ Ventro-transverse presentation

# DYSTOCIA DUE TO TWINS:

- ✖ Twin gestation in cattle often culminates in dystocia, but in mares abortion is a more likely sequel
- ✖ Twin dystocia is of three types:
  - ✓ Both fetuses present simultaneously and become impacted in the maternal pelvis
  - ✓ One fetus only is presented but cannot be born because of defective posture, position or presentation; posture is often most at fault, lack of extension of limbs or head being due to insufficient uterine space.
  - ✓ In uterine inertia, defective uterine contractions are caused, either by overstretching of the uterus by the excessive fetal load, or by premature birth. When inertia is present, birth of the first or second fetus does not proceed although presentation is normal.