

# Veterinary Science

Preparatory Training for the Veterinary Assistant

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**FAZD CENTER**

NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOREIGN ANIMAL  
AND ZOONOTIC DISEASE DEFENSE

fazd.tamu.edu



# Reproductive Non-Infectious Diseases

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# Objectives

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- Recognize the economic importance of reproductive problems
- Describe infertility problems that affect the cow
- Describe infertility problems that affect the mare
- Describe infertility problems that affect the stallion
- Discuss the factors that cause dystocia
- Discuss the management of reproductive problems

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- Reproductive problems are common
    - Recognize them
    - Prevent
    - Cull
  
  - Problems include
    - Inability to breed
    - Inability to conceive
    - Inability to maintain pregnancy

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- Male problems
    - Decreased libido
    - Abnormal sperm production
  
  - Female problems
    - Altered estrous cycle
    - Abnormal egg production

## ■ Definitions

- Estrous – entire cycle
- Estrus – when in heat
- Anestrus – not in heat

Species	Estrous Cycle	Duration of Estrus
Cattle	21d	15 h
Pig	21 d	50 h
Sheep	17 d	30 h
Horse	21 d	7 d

# Infertility Problems

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- Infertility

- Definition

- A reduced ability or inability to produce offspring
      - Not able to breed
      - Not able to conceive

- Male or female

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- Cow

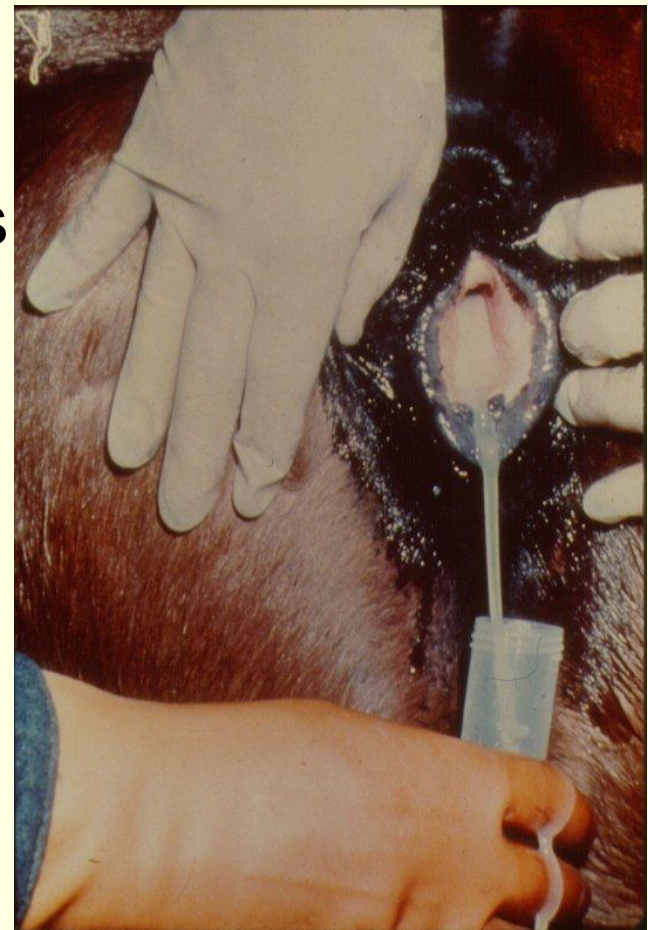
- Cystic ovaries
- Reproductive tract adhesions
- Anestrus
- Hereditary reproductive defects
  - Freemartin
- Improper nutrition
- Reproductive tract infections
  - Metritis





## ■ Mare

- Seasonal breeders
- Improper nutrition
- Reproductive tract infections
  - Metritis



## ■ Bulls

- Poor semen quality
  - Poor nutrition
  - Testicular diseases
- Injury or infection of penis
- Lameness

## ■ Stallions

- Poor semen quality
  - Poor nutrition
  - Testicular diseases



# Pregnancy Problems

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- Abortion
  - Premature termination of pregnancy
  - Causes
    - Infections
    - Nutritional deficiencies
    - Plant toxins
    - Chemical toxins
    - Drug toxins

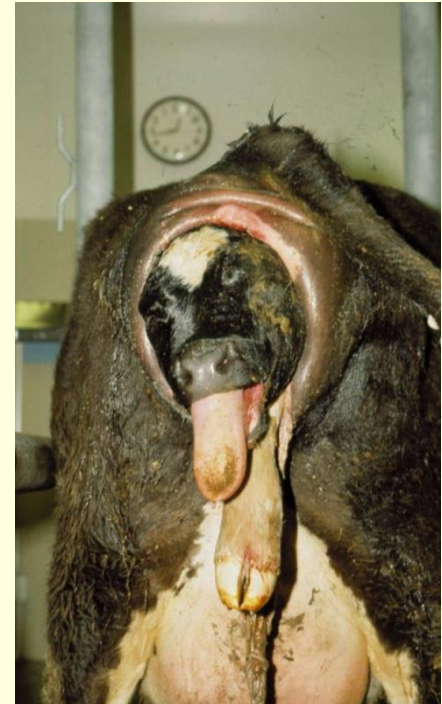


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- Early pregnancy loss
    - No sign
    - Body reabsorbs
  - Late pregnancy loss
    - Expelled/dead fetus

# Birth Problems

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- Dystocia
  - Difficult parturition (birthing)
  
- Causes
  - Undersize of birth canal
  - Oversize of fetus
  - Improper position, posture, or presentation of fetus
  - Malnutrition weakness of dam



# Management

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- Key – careful observation
- Observations
  - Awareness of repeat breeders
  - Awareness of abortions
  - Awareness of birthing