Short Communication

ANESTRUS AND "REPEAT BREEDING" PROBLEMS OF INDIGENOUS CATTLE IN BANGLADESH

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The true indigenous cattle of Bangladesh come from the primitive low-productive breeds, are maintained on paddy straw and available green grasses and are extensively used for draft purposes. The aetiology of anestrus and repeat breeding which is a problem of the indigenous cows of Bangladesh has not been thoroughly investigated. This report presents the findings of a study conducted for 4 years starting in January 1970.

A total of 1,108 cows having reproductive problems were examined of which 868 (78.33 per cent) were anestrus and 240 (21.66 per cent) were repeat breeder animals. The findings are summarised as follows:

1. In heifers with anestrus, 66 per cent of the animals had hypoplasia of the entire genital tract. The changes observed were similar to those described by Roberts (1961). Almost all these animals were malnourished and used extensively for draft purposes.
2. In post-breeding and post-parturient animals respectively the incidence of non-functional ovary was 85 and 71 per cent.
3. The overall incidence of granular vulvo-vaginitis was high among virgin and young animals which supports the findings of Baily (1955). In this study this disease appeared to interfere with fertility by producing anestrus and a repeat breeding syndrome which agrees with the findings of Cunkleman (1948) and Durrel (1949).
4. Cystic ovarian degeneration was found to produce both an anestrus and a repeat breeding syndrome similar to that described by Roberts (1961).

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