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Augmentation of reproduction in dairy animals

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There is a need to study factors causing sub fertility or infertility and thereby to enhance reproduction in a sequential manner in organized and rural animals. A multifaceted research project was planned, constituting 1000 cross bred cows and Murrah buffaloes, 50 exotic cross bred goats from NDRI, few thousands rural buffaloes and cows in 32 villages around Karnal, 30 male sheep from Bikaner and 100 buffalo genital organs from abattoir. Various hormones related to reproduction like Follicle Stimulating Hormone, Luteinizing Hormone, Prolactin, Growth Hormone, Progesterone, Estradiol-17 β , Cortisol and PGF2 α were monitored by Radio-immuno Assay in cross bred cows, buffaloes and goats during various phases of growth and reproduction. The sequential steps taken to maximize reproductive efficiency were studied as: Biometry of buffalo genitalia, preservation of fetuses, effect of auto immunization of semen and testicular homogenate on semen quality and testes, histopathology, antigenic analysis of spermatozoa and seminal plasma, routine collection, evaluation and freezing of semen, hematological profiles, monitoring of macro and micro mineral profiles, induction of estrus, reproductive disorders and postpartum fertility status, comparative efficacy of estrus inducing drugs, tubal potency test, early pregnancy diagnosis, induction of parturition in goats, ultrasonography of follicular and corpora luteal development, efficacy of different collection methods for oocyte retrieval, superovulation ET, IVM, IVF cloning, ET born buffalo calves.

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Animal-human ecosystem: Role of veterinarians in *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation

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The subject of veterinary science is an interesting one since it is a multi-disciplinary theme that incorporates disease diagnosis, treatment, management and prevention with subjects such as zoology, wildlife biology, animal welfare and husbandry. Being a wildlife veterinarian is not an easy job and it requires extensive professional skills to deal with both animals in captivity and also in the wild. Disease ecology is one of the fastest growing disciplines of science so veterinarians specialized in wildlife ought to incorporate themselves into this unique field of science. They have to understand the five basic freedom of welfare so that all animals that come under their care in zoos, recreational parks and aquariums can be properly maintained without any ethical and animal welfare related problems. India has numerous zoological parks and aquariums so all the animals need to be given the best care. So the zoo veterinarians play an important role. So the fact is, without a veterinarian, zoos cannot survive. Veterinarians also need to tackle the ongoing crisis involving human and wildlife conflict. Whenever there is an interaction with wildlife leading to conflict, there will be some consequences involving disease transfer. For example, monkeys such as rhesus macaque, bonnet macaque and Hanuman langur interact with humans in villages, towns and cities across India. Incidents of monkeys biting humans are also on the rise. So veterinarians play a crucial role to collect the correct statistics on monkey bits and also make appropriate management strategies to minimize aggressive human-monkey interactions leading to transfer of diseases.

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