

Original Research Article

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## Pregnancy Diagnosis in the Surti Goat by Trans-Rectal Ultrasound Scanning and Progesterone Estimation

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Goat, Progesterone, Ultrasonography

#### Article Info

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Total eighteen Surti goats were selected in the present study. The aim of the present study was to diagnose pregnancy at 40 days after breeding in selected goats by trans-rectal ultrasound scanning and progesterone assay simultaneously. Out of eighteen Surti goats, 17 (94.44%) goats were detected at pregnant by trans-rectal ultrasound scanning. On the same day of scanning, blood samples were collected from all the goats to estimate progesterone concentration. The mean serum progesterone concentration was  $6.54 \pm 0.42$  ng/ml on 40 days of pregnancy in pregnant goats (n=17) as compared to 2.49 ng/ml in non-pregnant goat (n=1).

### Introduction

Pregnancy detection in the goat can be detected by several techniques. Among them, real-time ultrasound scanning and estimation of serum progesterone are two very important and accurate methods. Both the methods have their own advantages and limitations. Although several studies have been carried out to evaluate each of these different methods individually, it is difficult to establish adequate comparisons between them due to different factors. The present study was conducted to diagnose pregnancy at 40 days after breeding in Surti goats by trans-rectal ultrasound scanning and its further

confirmation by estimation of serum progesterone concentration.

### Materials and Methods

Total eighteen Surti does managed under uniform managerial farm conditions were selected to diagnose pregnancy at 40 days after breeding by trans-rectal ultrasound scanning and progesterone assay simultaneously.

Trans-rectal ultrasound examinations were performed at 40 days after breeding with a 6.5MHz B-mode linear transducer. To estimate serum progesterone, 5 ml blood was

collected aseptically by jugular vein puncture from all the selected goats on the same day. The serum was separated by standard procedure and stored in the deep freeze at -20°C till further analysis. Serum progesterone (P<sub>4</sub>) concentration was measured by standard Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) technique using assay kits and procedure described by Diagnostic Automation/Cortez Diagnostics, Inc., California, USA.

## Results and Discussion

### Pregnancy Diagnosis by Serum Progesterone (P<sub>4</sub>) Concentration

The mean serum progesterone concentration at 40 days post service was 6.54±0.42 ng/ml on 40 days of pregnancy in pregnant goats (n=17) which was in accordance with Islam *et al.*, (2013). The accuracy of pregnancy by progesterone estimation by ELISA at 40 days of pregnancy was 100 per cent in present finding which was in accordance with Pati *et al.*, (2015) in progesterone estimation carried out by radio-immunoassay technique in Osmanabadi goat. While, accuracy was lower (37.5%) by radio-immunoassay technique in

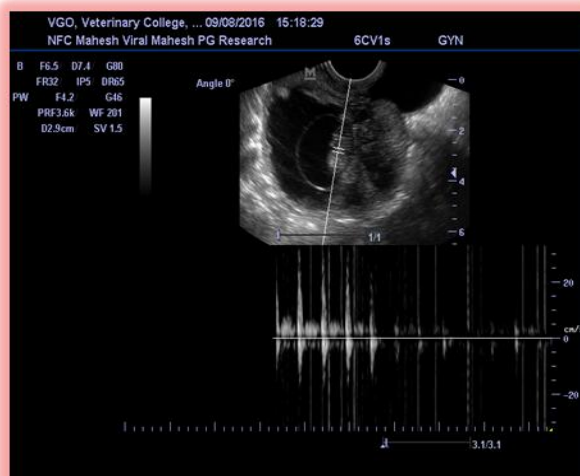
Nubian goat (Ahmed *et al.*, 1998); 80% in Shiba goat on day 21 after mating (Medan *et al.*, 2004) and 82% in dairy goat (Engeland *et al.*, 1997).

### Pregnancy Diagnosis by Ultrasonography

Ultrasonography was carried out on day - 40 post breeding with a 6.5MHz B-mode linear transducer (Fig. 1 and 2). In the present finding, accuracy of pregnancy and non-pregnancy were 100 per cent in accordance with Deokate *et al.*, (2007) in Osmanabadi does, Omontese *et al.*, (2012) in Red Soketo does of Nigeria and Badawi *et al.*, (2014) in Nubian goat.

The trans-abdominal and trans-rectal scanning technique are used to diagnose pregnancy in goats. Trans-abdominal scanning of goats, performed between days 40 and 70 after mating, yields information about pregnancy, fetal viability and single or multiple pregnancy, while at the same time making possible a reliable differential diagnosis of pregnancy and hydrometra reported by Hesselink and Taverne (1994) in local breeds of goat.

**Fig.1** Live foetus in the amniotic sac with heart beat



**Fig.2** Twin foetuses in amniotic sac by trans-rectal ultrasonography on 40<sup>th</sup> day of pregnancy



Embryo proper and heart beat were detected by 42 to 45 days of gestation using B-mode real time trans-rectal ultrasonography in goat reported by Agrawal *et al.*, (2006) in non-descript goat. Observation and identification of sac, non-echogenic area and foetus, foetal heart, uterine wall, amniotic fluid were detected from days 21 to 49 of gestation also reported by Raja-Khalif *et al.*, (2014) in Jermasia and crossbred Boer does. B mode real time ultrasonography can be employed to develop database of fetal development in goats which can serve as reference value for detecting any abnormal development of kids in uterus (Kumar *et al.*, 2005).

Based on the present findings it can be concluded that trans-rectal ultrasonography provides an appropriate alternative to progesterone estimation for detection of pregnancy on day 40 post breeding in goat.

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