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Rupture of the Prepubic Tendon of a Ewe

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point fired and red biniodide of mercury applied. The case was dismissed.

—E. S. McClelland, '42

6 Fetal Dystocia. Late in August a veterinarian was called to a farm to attend a dystocia. On arriving he found a Brown Swiss cow trying to have her second calf. The fetus was in normal anterior presentation with the forelegs and head protruding from the vulva. The eyes were open and the calf was apparently in good condition. After repelling the calf, the birth canal was palpated but nothing could be felt. The assistant then pulled the fetus out as far as possible and in this position a greatly distended sac of fluid was felt just over the rim of the pelvis. This was an enormously enlarged abdomen.

With a curved pointed bistoury, the veterinarian made an unsuccessful attempt to puncture the abdomen and allow the fluid to escape. During the handling of the calf, a brown fluid was noticed escaping from the mouth. A stomach tube was immediately passed on the fetus and about seven gallons of the fluid ran out. This reduced the abdomen, and the calf easily slipped out. During the process of removing the fluid the fetus died.

On post mortem examination the stomachs and anterior third of the small intestine were found to be greatly distended. The remainder of the small intestine and the large intestine were normal. No stricture of the intestine was present. Apparently the fetus had swallowed the amniotic fluid, which then collected in the anterior portion of the digestive tract.

—L. W. Feldman, '42

7 Rupture of the Prepubic Tendon of a Ewe. A two year old Hampshire ewe was brought to the Iowa State College Veterinary Clinic on Feb. 17, 1941. The normal gestation period was almost completed. The ewe had become lame about ten days prior to the time she was presented. The only external cause the owner was aware of which could possibly be a factor in the case was the fact that the ewe had to jump over a ten inch door sill to get into the stable.

The animal was examined, the symptoms and general appearance indicating rupture of the prepubic tendon. These symptoms included a peculiar downward enlargement of the abdomen, a forward displacement of the mammary gland and a hindrance to locomotion. Both sides were involved, but the left side of the abdomen was more pendulous than the right.

As no treatment was indicated, the ewe was sent home. Instructions were given the owner to watch for signs of approaching parturition and to give assistance in delivering the lamb if possible. The prognosis given was quite unfavorable. This is due primarily to the fact that following a degeneration of the abdominal floor, regeneration does not readily take place. The rupture would also make parturition more difficult than normal, because the force of contractions of the uterine musculature alone would have to expel the fetus or feti, and because the sagging of the abdominal floor would change the relationship between the plane of the axis of the uterus to that of the pelvic cavity.

Several weeks later, two associates and the author interviewed the owner of the
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Ewe to get the results of the case. The owner stated that the ewe had lived about a week after being presented at the clinic. He noticed that she was attempting parturition and he assisted her in delivering a dead lamb. The next morning the ewe was dead. The owner opened the abdomen and found another lamb in the uterus which appeared to have been dead for a long time. The abdomen was also filled with a great quantity of fluid which, he said, resembled urine. The owner believed that if help had been accorded the ewe a little sooner, at least one lamb would have survived.

This case was very unique in the fact that rupture of the prepubic tendon is rare in the ovine. It also appears strange that degeneration would take place in an animal so young. It is very problematical as to whether or not the strain of jumping over the ten inch sill aggravated the condition in any way.

—B. T. Huso, '42

Emphysema of the Guttural Pouch.
On Feb. 4, 1941, a two-year-old chestnut stallion of the American Saddle breed was presented to the clinic. Last fall, the animal had suffered an attack of equine influenza and had evidently completely recovered from the attack. At the time the stallion was brought here, it had an enlargement of the throat region, the left side being very much enlarged, and the right side only slightly so. The enlargement was very soft, and upon palpation, was found to be caused by air in the guttural pouch. The history which accompanied the case was that the animal had been operated upon several times previously, but without success. The caretaker stated that the swelling would appear in one or two days following the operation and would remain distended until operated on again.

Observations were made each day from the 4th until the 10th of February, and