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D. D. McCracken

R. A. Moore

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A Case Report of

Hydrops Amnii

Dr. D. D. McCracken, D.V.M.

Dr. R. A. Moore, D.V.M.

ON MARCH 24, 1955 I WAS CALLED TO SEE A 6 YEAR OLD ANGUS COW. A diagnoses of hydrops amnii was made. The exact freshening date was not known but was estimated to be about 3-4 weeks away. Since the fluid content had increased considerably in the last week it was decided to do a Caesarean section to save the cow.

Using only local anesthesia Lidocaine Hydrochloride (Xylocaine), a standing operation was performed in the right paralumbar fossa. Approximately 15 gal. of fluid was allowed to escape slowly from the uterus, lessening the danger of shock. Both horns were equally distended with fluid, the fetus being in the left horn. The placenta was not removed. The uterus and abdominal wall were closed with a double row of sutures. Four million units of penicillin and 40 mg. of stilbesterol were given. The only after care consisted of 3 million units of penicillin and the insertion of uterine capsules through the cervix in 48 hours. The stitches were removed in 10 days.

The calf was alive when delivered and appeared normal except that it was about 2-3 weeks premature. It died 3 days after delivery.

The abdominal muscles in the lower right flank were ruptured as shown in the accompanying photograph.

Dr. McCracken is now practicing at Denison, Iowa. Dr. Moore is located in practice at Dunlap, Iowa.



Postoperative view of cow showing the ruptured abdominal muscles.

Baby pig losses can be cut if farrowing pens are cleaned at night instead of morning, according to a recent report. The reason is believed to be because sows move around less when the pen is clean, hence crush fewer pigs. Reports indicate that most pigs are crushed at night.