Influence of different stages of corpus luteum on ovary size, oocytes grades and follicular population in Indian buffaloes

Eias Elzein, I Osman¹; Sharma. RK²; Majdi .E. Badawi³; Dahiya, S².; Prem, Y².; Pholia, A².; Dharmendra, K².; Selokar, N².; Jerome, A².; Pradeep, K².; Saini, M².; Nidhi, R².; Wakil, A². and Rasika, R²

¹Department of clinical studies, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Nyala, Nyala- Sudan.
²Phyiology and Reproduction Division, Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes, Hisar-125001, India.
³Department of medicine and animal surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, Sudan University of Sciences and Technology- Khartoum.

*Corresponding author: eiasalzain66@yahoo.com

Abstract— The aim of this study was to evaluate the effect of different stages of corpus luteum on ovary size, oocytes grades and follicular population. A total of 109 buffalo ovaries were collected from the slaughterhouse and transported to the laboratory for determination of ovaries weight, length, width, thickness, follicular population and oocytes grades. The results obtained revealed that the effect of types of CL on ovary weight and size showed a significant difference in the type of CL groups with ovary weight and ovary size. Ovaries having CL in late-stage showed the highest mean of ovary weight, length, width and thickness over the CL in the early and middle stage. Moreover, the results showed no significantly different in the type of CL groups with follicular population and oocytes grades.

Keywords — Buffalo, Ovary, Corpus luteum, Follicular population, oocytes grades.

I. INTRODUCTION

Corpus luteum (CL) is an endocrine gland formed after ovulation of graffian follicle and contributes to regulate estrous cycle and maintenance of pregnancy (Schams and Berisha, 2004). In different stages of estrus cycle and pregnancy, corpus luteum has several stages in size and structure (fields and fields, 1996). Corpus luteum synthesizes and secretes hormones such as progesterone, estrogen, relaxin, oxytocin, vasopressin and inhibin (Fields, 1991). Progesterone is essential steroid hormone necessary for establishing of pregnancy in domestic animals (Tomac et al., 2011). Moreover, blood progesterone has useful tool to determine an appropriate time of insemination, monitoring of cyclicity and pregnancy diagnosis in buffaloes (Batra and Pandey, 1983). The aim of the current study was to evaluate the effect of different stages of corpus luteum on ovary size, oocytes grades and follicular population.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Study area:

The present research was conducted in year 2018 – 2019 at Central Institute for Research on Buffalo, Hisar Haryana, India, located between Latitude: 29°09′14″ N Longitude: 75°43′22″ E and Elevation above sea level: 216 m.

2.2 Experiment design

One hundred nine buffalo ovaries having CL were collected immediately after slaughtering from Delhi slaughterhouse and transported to the laboratory in an insulated container containing normal saline with antibiotics. In laboratory, all tissues attached to ovaries were removed and all ovaries were washed twice in saline solution containing antibiotics (Dharmendra et al., 2011). After wash all ovaries were classified into three groups: Group having CL in early stage, middle stage and late stage.

2.2.1 Determination of ovaries weights:

Ovaries were weighed by using an electronic scale balance and expressed in gram (Kouamo et al., 2014).

2.2.2 Determination of ovaries lengths:
Ovaries lengths were measured using electronic Vernier calipers as the distance from anterior pole to posterior pole and expressed in cm (Samad and Raza, 1999).

2.2.3 Determination of ovaries widths:
Ovaries widths were measured using electronic Vernier calipers as the greater distance from the medial to the lateral surfaces and expressed in cm (Bukar et al., 2006).

2.2.4 Determination of ovaries thicknesses:
Ovaries thicknesses were measured using electronic Vernier calipers as the greatest distance along an axis vertical to the longitudinal axis and expressed in cm (Razzaque et al., 2008).

2.2.5 Determination of follicular population:
For each ovary, visible follicles were counted and follicle size was measured with electronic Vernier calipers. Follicles were classified into 3 categories: small (<3 mm), medium (3 to 8 mm) and large (> 8 mm) (Baki Acar et al., 2013).

2.2.6 Oocytes collection:
Oocytes were collected by aspiration of surface follicles (2–8 mm diameter) using 18-gauge disposable needle attached to a 10 ml syringe in aspiration medium. The follicular fluid was collected in tube and kept for 15 minutes. The sediment was collected in 60 mm Petri dish and oocytes were searched under stereo zoom microscope.

2.2.7 Grading of Oocytes:
Oocytes were graded as: A, B, C and D according to homogenous of ooplasm and cumulus cells layer.

### III. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Data were analyzed using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) Version 18. The analysis of variance and Duncan’s test statistics were used to analyze appropriate data sets. Differences were significant at P < 0.05.

### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The effect of types of CL on ovary weight and size is presented in table 1. The results showed significantly difference (P<0.05) in type of CL groups with ovary weight and ovary size. Ovaries having CL in late stage showed highest mean of ovary weight (5.03±0.17), length (2.35±0.05), width (1.74±0.05) and thickness (1.48±0.03) over the CL in early and middle stage. The mean weight, length, width, thickness were significantly higher in ovaries having CL in late stage as compared with ovaries having CL in early and middle stages. This result may occur due to hyperplasia of fibroblast of the connective tissue and vascularity contributes to an increase in size of the CL (Jablonka-Shariff et al., 1993).

The effect of types of CL on follicular population is presented in table 2. The results showed no significant difference between type of CL and follicular population. May be due to progesterone mechanism which inhibits follicular growth through suppression of LH which is critical for continued growth to large follicles (Bartlewski et al., 2001). Campbell et al (1991) reported that the CL secreted inhibin hormone into ovarian venous blood which has widely affect on ovarian follicular growth. These results were different than that found by (Mervat and Marwa, 2019) in cow. This difference might be due to animal and environment.

The effect of type of CL on oocyte grades is presented in table 3. The results showed no significant difference between type of CL and oocyte grades.

#### Table 1 Means (±SE) values of early, middle and late stage of CL:

| Ovary size | Factors | No. of ovary | Weight | Length | Width | Thickness |
|------------|---------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
|            | Early CL | 26           | 3.38±0.24 | 2.09±0.09 | 1.41±0.06 | 1.20±0.02 |
|            | Middle CL| 23           | 4.03±0.24 | 2.14±0.09 | 1.54±0.06 | 1.47±0.04 |
|            | Late CL  | 60           | 5.03±0.17 | 2.35±0.05 | 1.74±0.05 | 1.48±0.03 |
| P < 0.05   | -       | .000         | .015    | .000    | .000    |

a, b, c In each column different letters (a, b) indicated significant difference between group (p<0.05) No =number  SE = Standard Error  CL = corpus luteum

#### Table 2 Means (±SE) values of early, middle and late stage of CL:

| Number of follicles | Factors | No. of ovary | Small | Medium | Large | Average No |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|-------|--------|-------|------------|
|                     | Early CL| 26           | 1.46±0.30 | 0.46±0.16 | 0.31±0.11 | 2.23±0.29 |
|                     | Middle CL| 23         | 1.13±0.29 | 0.61±0.18 | 0.26±0.14 | 2.00±0.35 |
|                     | Late CL | 60           | 1.22±0.18 | 0.52±0.13 | 0.28±0.06 | 2.02±0.20 |
| P < 0.05            | -       | .690         | .858   | .957    | .821    |

No =number  SE = Standard Error  CL = corpus luteum

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Table 3  Means (± SE) values of early, middle and late stage of CL

| Factors | No. of ovary | I      | II      | III     | IV      | Selected oocytes for IVEP. I and II |
|---------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------------------|
| Early CL | 26           | 0.23±0.20 | 0.46±0.34 | 0.50±0.46 | 0.12±0.12 | 0.69±0.53                        |
| Middle CL | 23           | 0.39±0.27 | 0.52±0.38 | 0.35±0.27 | 0.09±0.09 | 0.91±0.64                        |
| Late CL | 60           | 0.20±0.15 | 0.35±0.25 | 0.78±0.65 | 0.0      | 0.55±0.39                        |
| P<0.05 | -            | 0.791   | 0.920   | 0.890   | 0.295   | 0.880                             |

No=number  SE = Standard Error  CL = corpus luteum

V.  CONCLUSION
From the present study, it is concluded that the highest ovary weight and size in ovaries with CL in late stage than others stages. So, the corpus luteum has a great effect on ovarian morphology without having effect on oocyte grades and follicular population in buffaloes.

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Relationship between types of CL, ovary weight and ovary size

Relationship between types of CL and follicular population

Relationship between types of CL and oocytes grades