Monitoring of the bovine fetus during and shortly after birth

Original title / Originaltitel
Überwachung des bovinen Fetus und des neugeborenen Kalbes während und nach der Geburt

Summary / Zusammenfassung
Approximately 3% of all bovine fetuses die during or shortly after birth. In the majority of cases the reason for this peripartal mortality is dystocia, which causes a protraction in the birth progress. This bears the risk of fetal damage caused by hypoxia, hypercapnia and acidosis. In the field methods for monitoring the well-being of the bovine fetus during parturition are almost lacking. The evaluation of vitality is based mainly on reflexes, meconium staining of the fetus and the amniotic fluid or the detection of a heart beat in the fetus, but they do not allow an accurate estimate of fetal acidosis. The aim of the projekt is to develop new methods which may help to recognize fetal distress.

Publications / Publikationen
Bleul UT., Bircher BM., Kähn WK. (2008) Effect of intranasal oxygen administration on blood gas variables and survival in neonatal calves
with respiratory distress syndrome.
Bleul U. (2009)
Respiratory Distress Syndrome in Calves
Respiratory and cardiovascular effects of doxapram and theophylline for the treatment of asphyxia in neonatal calves
Theriogenology, 73, 612–9

Keywords / Suchbegriffe
bovine, neonate, asphyxia, respiratory distress syndrome, neonatal acidosis, fetal acidosis, perinatal mortality

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