**LESSON NOTE**

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| OESTRUS CYCLE    This is the interval from the end of one heat period to the beginning of another. It is under the influence of hormones. It varies from animals  Cow 20-21 days  Ewe 17-21 days  Sow 14-28 days  Doe (goat) 17-21 days  Doe (Rabbit) spontaneous  HEAT PERIOD    This is the period when the female animal shows signs of its readiness to mate. It is the period of ovulation and it varies in animals e.g  Cow 5-24 hrs  Ewe 35-36 hrs  Sow 40-48 hrs  Doe (goat) 40-50 hrs  GESTATION PERIOD: This is the period between conception and birth of the young one. it is the period of pregnancy in animals. It is the period of swelling of the abdomen. It is the period of swelling of the udder, there is increase in life weight. It is under the control of the hormone progesterone (pregnancy hormone) and it varies in animals  Gestation period Range  Cow=283 days - 275-285 days  Ewe =114 days - 112-116 days  Sow =150 days - 145-155 days  Goat 151 days - 150-155 days  PARTURITION    This is the act of giving birth in farm animals. It marks the end of pregnancy and the beginning of lactation. The act of parturition for each animal is unique.  Cow – Calving  Sow – Farrowing  Ewe – Lambing  Goat (Doe) – Kidding  Rabbit (Doe) – Kindling  Poultry – hatching  COLOSTRUM  This is the milk produced immediately after parturition within the first five days of milk production is essentially colostrum. It is yellowish-white milk. It is important for the new born animals to take colostrum because  LACTATION:    This is the period of milk letdown. It is the period during which the female animal release milk from its udder immediately after parturition and thereafter. The milk is used to feed the young one, it is under the influence of hormone i.e. decrease in progesterone and increase in estrogen and oxytocin  MATING    This is also called coitus or copulation (sexual intercourse). This is the act in which the penis of the male animal is inserted into the vaginal of the female animal leading to introduction of sperm into the vagina. Mating could be natural or artificial.  Natural mating types include Flock mating, Pen mating and Stud mating.  Home Work.  Write short notes on the types of mating mentioned in the lesson |