

Assessment of Major Reproductive Disorders of Dairy Cattle in Vavuniya Veterinary Range

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A study was conducted to assess the prevalence of major reproductive disorders and to evaluate the reproductive performance of dairy cattle in the Vavuniya veterinary range. Out of 924 dairy cows that were investigated, 193 cows (20.89%) had encountered at least one major reproductive disorder. Repeat breeding (8.66%), abortion (5.41%) and dystocia (3.57%) were recorded with high prevalence, whereas retained fetal membrane (1.62%), stillbirth (1.41%), and uterine and vaginal prolapse (0.22%) were recorded with lower prevalence. The overall incidence of reproductive disorders showed statistical significance ($P < 0.05$) with respect to the age of the animals and production system. There was no statistically significant difference in the incidence of reproductive disorders with respect to the breed of the animals. The prevalence of reproductive disorders in the semi-intensive system (23.14%) was higher than in the extensive system (11.05%). Moreover, the prevalence was higher in 5-7 years (34.68%) than in 3-5 years (28.40%), and 7 years (25.83%) age groups. The overall mean \pm standard deviation for age at first service, calving to first service interval, calving to conception interval and calving interval were 27.05 ± 5.58 months ($n=90$), 52.30 ± 14.86 days ($n=240$), 109.62 ± 29.70 days ($n=240$) and 13.02 ± 1.16 months ($n=165$), respectively. The first service conception rate was 28.75% ($n=240$). In conclusion, it can be recommended that the improvement in the management system, proper selection of bull or timing of AI, accurate heat detection, routine and periodical reproductive examinations of cows have to be conducted to minimize the incidence of reproductive disorders and associated risk factors.

Keywords: Dairy cattle, Reproductive disorders, Vavuniya

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