

Hypotrichosis Associated with Congenital Goiter, in an Aborted Bovine Fetus

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Hypotrichosis of non-genetic origin associated with congenital goiter was diagnosed in an aborted bovine female fetus, presented to diagnostic laboratory by a local veterinarian. The fetus had sparse hairs only in sharp defined regions including the muzzle, eyelids, pastern, tip of tail, ears and umbilicus. The thyroid glands were extensively enlarged and incisors were covered by gingiva. Radiographs of aborted fetus showed the presence of an extra rib on lower left side. Pathological examination of skin samples taken from multiple standardized sites revealed reduced density of hair follicle. Smaller sized hair follicles were present but all were in the telogen phase. The density of apocrine sweat glands was markedly reduced and appeared slightly dilated and less tortuous than usual. Sebaceous glands and arrector pili muscles were normal. Histologic changes in thyroid glands included reduced follicular luminal diameter, markedly reduced luminal colloid, hypertrophy of follicular epithelium, follicular dysplasia and moderate to marked degree of diffuse hyperplastic goiter. Cause of death of fetus was not determined, but was presumed to die from disorders associated with the thyroid lesion or dystocia.

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