

JOURNAL OF CAMEL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

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WORLD'S FIRST FROZEN SEMEN BIRTH

The research in reproduction is very important in the Middle East and Gulf region because camel is primarily used for racing purposes. A consistent improvement in the performance of these camels is required hence a great focus always remains to improve the germ plasm of this desert species. Our congratulations to the team led by Dr Alex Tinson of Management of Scientific Centres and Presidential Camels, Hilli E.T. and Surgical Centre, Al-Ain, Abu Dhabi. They achieved birth of a female racing camel calf on the 3rd of March 2013 as the result of artificial insemination with frozen camel semen. The semen was collected by electroejaculation of a stud camel Toffan. The centre had carried out research on frozen semen in the early 90's, producing a small number of pregnancies, but the results were unpublished and the difficulties of dealing with camel semen efficiently led to a greater interest in embryo transfer. My visit to Camel Reproduction Centre at Doha, Qatar also revealed a greater interest of scientists and owners in artificial insemination and embryo transfer. This has recently led to an upsurge of camel reproduction specialists in these countries. There is a greater need to increase the human resource in this specialisation of camelids.

The year 2013 has started with hosting of two international camel conferences at Saudi Arabia and Sudan. Both the conferences were attended by a large number of scientists of these countries in addition to the camel scientists from other countries. I also attended both of these and felt that many topics are discussed repeatedly in all the camel conferences. At the end of conference we hardly know about the latest research trends and new research in the field of camel science. Few laboratories and institutions are doing remarkable work but unfortunately scientists from these work places are not able to participate in every conference. We need to ponder on this issue.

Journal of Camel Practice and Research has entered in second decade of its publication with the June issue of volume 20. This issue has manuscripts related to dromedaries, bactrian and New World camelids. This issue is marked by the research on pharmacokinetics of danofloxacin, nutritional research on oat straw and groundnut haulms, camel meat and milk research, anatomy and reproductive endocrinology. The research on camel diseases like contagious ecthyma infection, listeriosis in South American camelids, anthraco-silicosis in the lungs and liver pathology are added attraction of this issue. The second edition of a new book entitled, "Pictorial Guide to Traditional Management, Husbandry and Diseases of the One Humped Camel" authored by Maurizio Dioli is a star in the galaxy of camelid literature. We congratulate the author for his dedicated efforts.

I thank all the authors of manuscripts and members of the editorial board who have reposed a big trust in the Journal of Camel Practice and Research and helped it growing to the age of 20 years.



(Dr. T.K. Gahlot)
Editor