## RETROSPECTIVE STUDY OF CASES OF DYSTOCIA IN SHEEP AT VETERINARY HOSPITAL OF UNIVERSITY OF BRASÍLIA FROM THE 2002 TO 2009

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The study of dystocia is very important, since the mortality of lambs is a major source of losses in the sheep industry worldwide, with 60% of perinatal deaths attributed to a very stressful birth. This study aimed to report cases of dystocia in sheep treated at the Veterinary Hospital for Large Animals at University of Brasília, Brazil, from 2002 to 2009. We used data contained in clinical records of 57 sheep treated, who had a history of dystocia. The frequencies found were 32.6% of fetal dystocia and 67.39% of the maternal one. Among the maternal cause the toxemia of pregnancy was a very important factor with 37.5% of cases. Insufficient dilation of vulva or cervix with 27.08%, malposition with 25%. Among the malposition dystocias the posterior malpresentation achieved 25% of them. Among the methods used for correction of dystocia, cesarean section in the left paralumbar fossa was used in 76.36% of cases. We chose positioning and traction in 20% of the cases. The cesarean section for ventral paramedian celiotomy and partial fetotomia were performed in 1.8% of the cases each one. The outcome of the cases was 54.39% of discharged and 45.61% of deaths of the ewes, and of these 11.53% were due to peritonitis and 7.7% for uterine rupture. The frequencies of the breeds that were in dystocia were:

St. Inês 78.95%;

Crossbred 10.53%;

Bergamácia 5.26%;

Dorper 3.51% and

Texel 1.75%.

All consultations were made on the premises of the Veterinary Hospital of Large Animals. This is probably due the ease of transporting these animals, by to the small size. Dystocia of maternal origin had a high incidence in sheep. The toxemia of pregnancy should be mentioned in this study mainly by the amount of these cases, potentially causing maternal dystocia. The procedure of cesarean section for left paralumbar fossa proved effective in treating distocias. The month of July was the one that concentated a greater number of cases. The Santa Ines, due to its superiority in the region was the one with a larger number of cases treated.