

Society for  
Therigenology

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NANDI,  
SACRED BULL AND  
SYMBOL OF  
FRUITFULNESS

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# Equine Parturition

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University of Pennsylvania



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# MARE PREPARATION

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**Move mare to foaling location  
3-4 weeks before induction.**

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**Mare Impending Parturition**

- Relaxed pelvic ligaments
- Relaxed vulva
- Udder development
- “waxed” with colostrum

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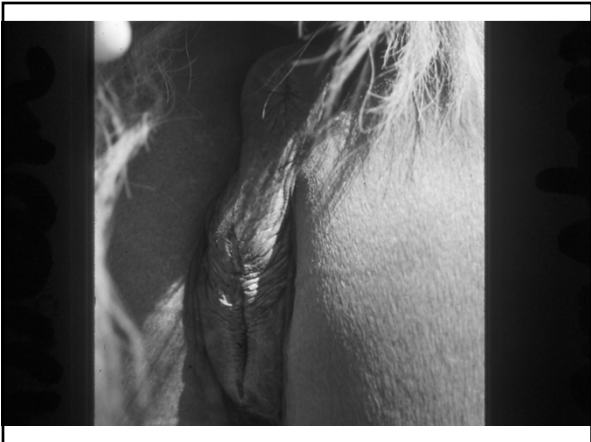
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**Mammary Score**

- 0 no development
- + slight enlargement  
clear colored secretion
- ++ further enlargement  
cloudy, straw colored fluid
- +++ wax on teats, udder and teats  
fully distended

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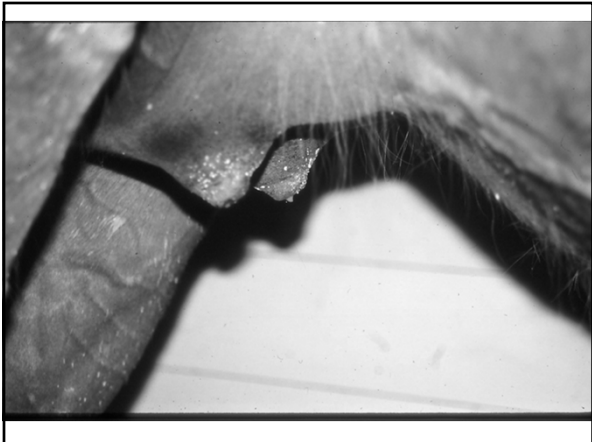
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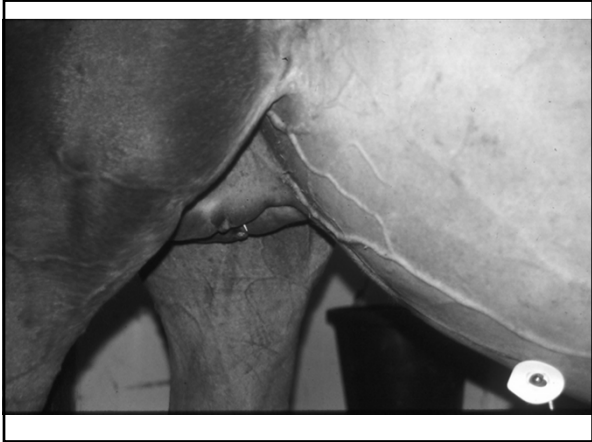
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**Equine Parturition**

First stage	1-4 hours
Second stage	< 30 minutes
Third stage	< 3 hours

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### Stage I

- Myometrial contractions
- Cervical relaxation
- Birth canal dilation
- Fetal positioning
- Ends with chorioallantois rupture

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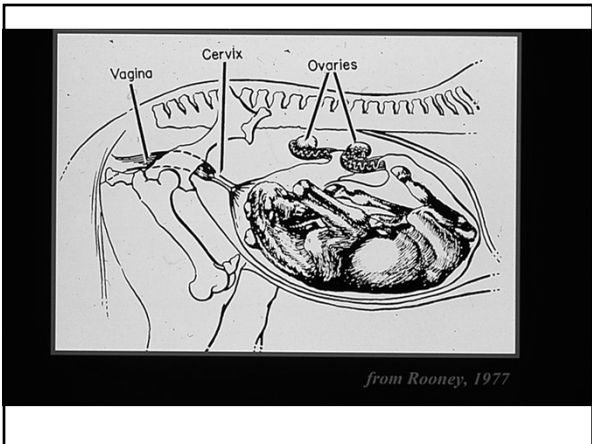
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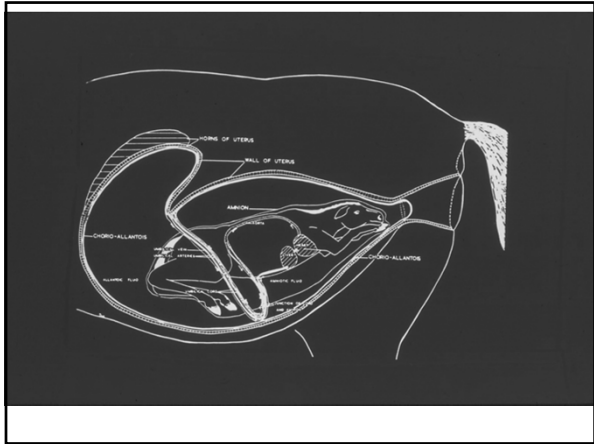
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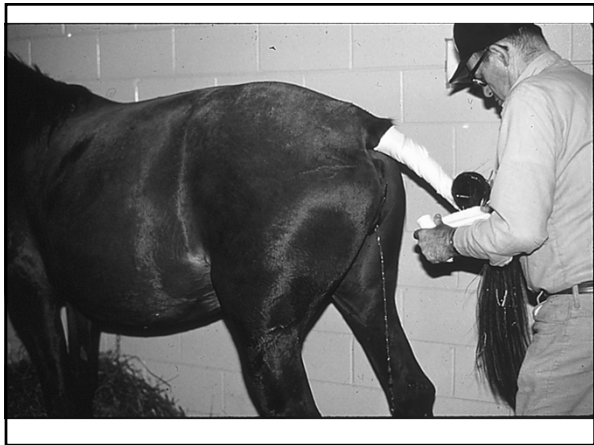
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### Stage II

- Uterine contractions
- Abdominal contractions
- Fetus passes through birth canal

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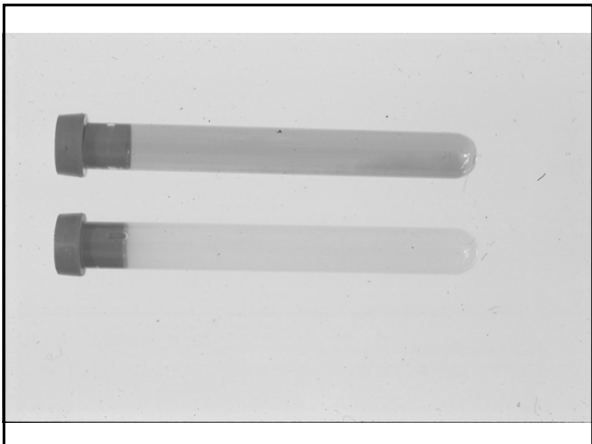
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**Stage III**

- Expulsion of fetal membranes
- Involution of uterus

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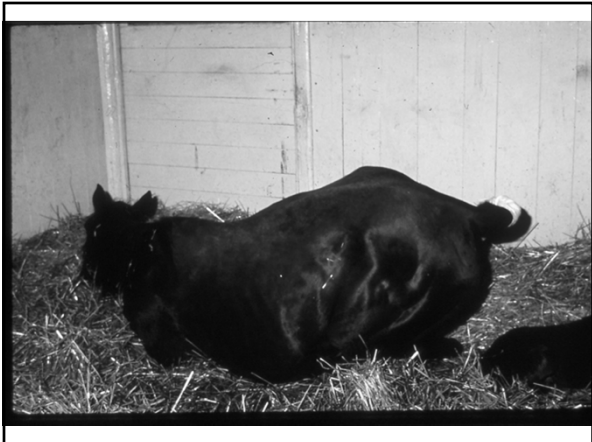
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**Fetal Membrane Weight**  
4.0 to 8.4 kg

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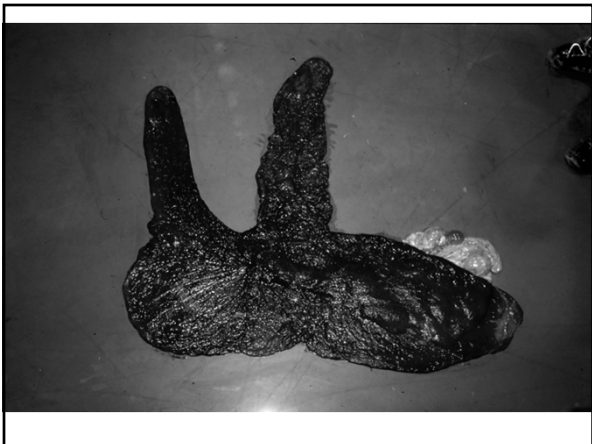
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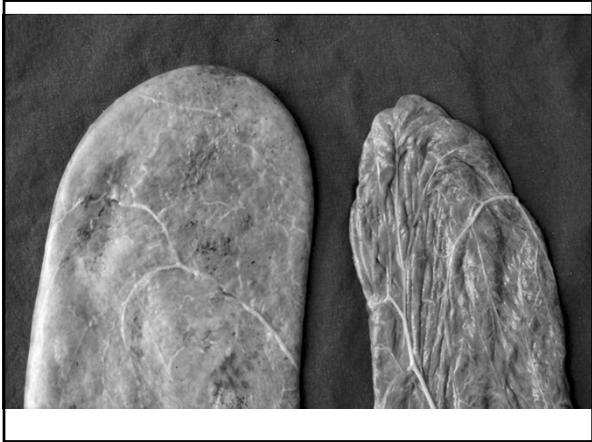
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### Avillous Chorionic Areas

- Cervical star
- Opening of oviducts
- Site of endometrial cups
- Yolk sac attachment
- Invaginated folds

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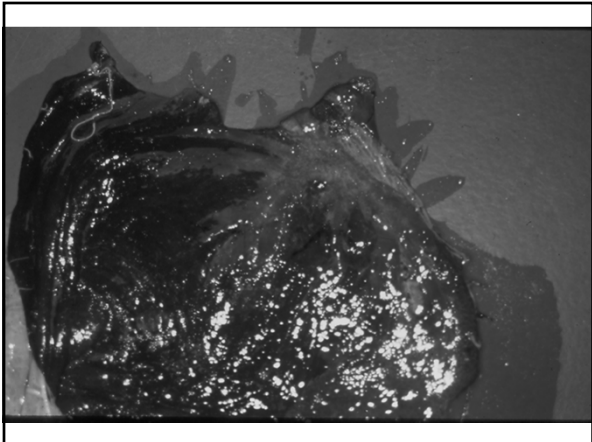
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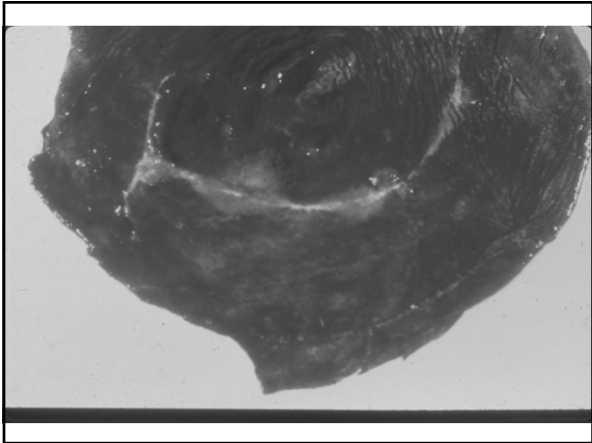
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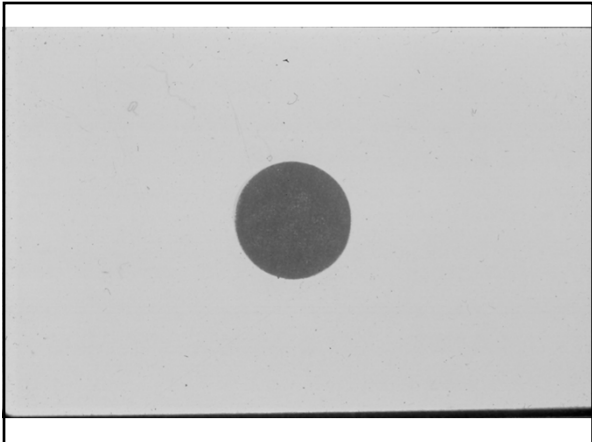
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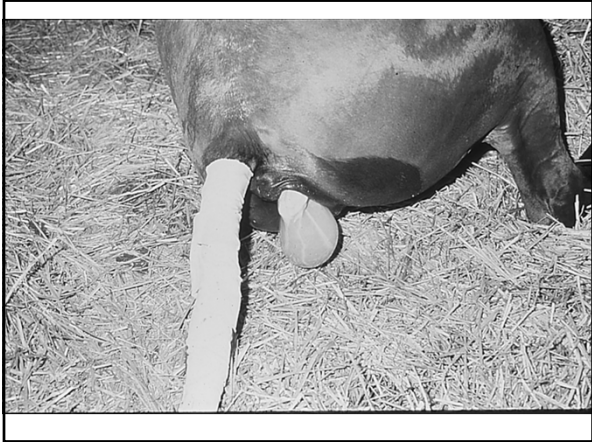
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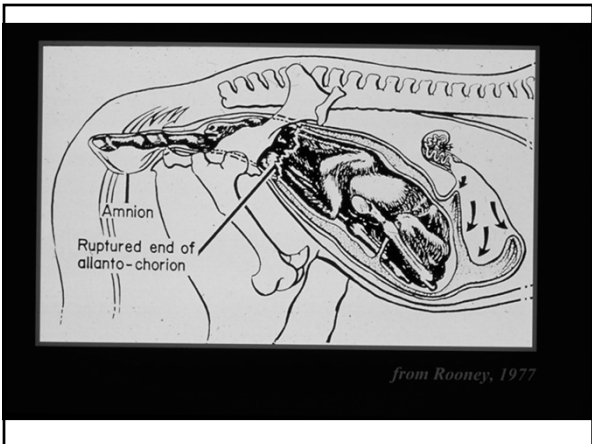
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### Premature Separation Chorioallantois

- Placental edema
- Ascending placentitis
- Chorioallantois fails to rupture at cervical star
- Foal hypoxic

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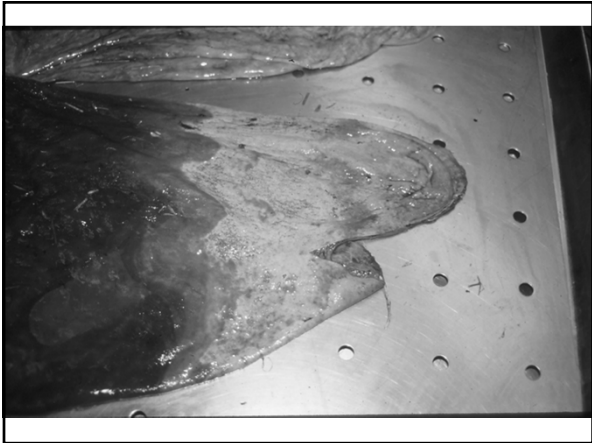
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<http://cal.vet.upenn.edu/projects/foaling/index.html>

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