

## Tarsorrhaphy in Buffalo Calves: Five Case Reports

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### Abstract

Corneal ulceration in animals gives challenge to the field veterinarians, because of its unresponsiveness to medical treatment. The present paper reports that tarsorrhaphy is the choice of treatment for unresponsive corneal ulceration in animals.

**Keywords:** Corneal ulcer, buffalo calves, tarsorrhaphy

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### INTRODUCTION

The causes of corneal ulceration in animals are trauma, chemical injury, bacterial, viral (or) fungal infection, and sharp (or) blunt trauma, apart from that rubbing of foreign bodies, grass awns, whips and shanks, unresponsive to medical treatment, if condition is severe [1]. Mild to severe unresponsive corneal ulceration in five buffalo calves is managed by temporary tarsorrhaphy method, which is the procedure of closure of eyelids. It was indicated in large animals for treatment of corneal ulcer [2].

### CASE HISTORY AND OBSERVATION

Different age groups of five buffalo calves were affected with corneal ulcer, in which, three cases was treated by local para vet with topical antibiotics and sub-conjunctival injection of corticosteroids; the condition was not responding to medical therapy. Clinical examination revealed corneal ulceration from mild, moderate to severe. All five cases were decided for temporary tarsorrhaphy method of treatment. Details are represented in the form of tabular column (Table 1).

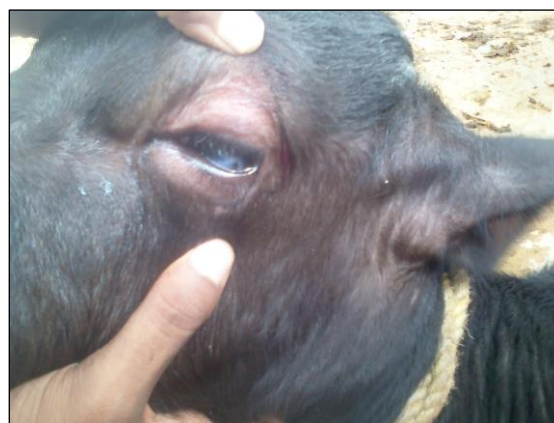
*Table 1: Different Age Groups of Buffalo Calves.*

Age	Stage of Condition	Fluorescent Dye Test	Suture Removal
6 months	Severe	+++	18th day
3 months	Mild to moderate	+	15th day
4 months	Mild	-	12th day
8 months	Severe	+++	18th day
5 months	Moderate	++	16th day

### TREATMENT AND DISCUSSION

Eyelid margin was cleanly shaved, followed by cleaning with chlorhexidine solution. Local infiltration analgesia was done with 3–4 ml of 2% lignocaine hydrochloride in all five cases. Temporary tarsorrhaphy was done by taking 4 to 5 interrupted sutures through eyelid margins with non-absorbable silk. The eye was medicated with ceftiofur preparation via sub-palpebral route up to 12 more days. Suture was removed according to the severances of the cases.

The most advantage of tarsorrhaphy in animal was that it prevents further irritation from external environment; at the same time, it retains the medicaments whatever we applied. Local para vet administered the corticosteroids that could be the cause of aggravation of this condition [3]. Gelatt opined that temporary tarsorrhaphy is effective for 7–21 days [4]. In this present paper, according to the severances of case, suture was removed (12 to 18 days).



*Fig. 1: Corneal Ulcer.*



**Fig. 2:** Tarsorrhaphy.

### CONCLUSION

Temporary tarsorrhaphy was the choice of treatment for medically unresponsive corneal ulcer.

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### Cite this Article

Thangamani A. Tarsorrhaphy in Buffalo Calves: Five Case Reports. *Research & Reviews: Journal of Veterinary Science and Technology*. 2017; 6(3): 7–8p.