

essential covering all seasons to understand the implications of parasitism in captive animals and birds.

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UNUSUAL VULVAR EDEMA IN A CHIMPANZEE

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Two captive born Chimpanzees one male (July) aged about five and-a-half years and one female (Pompeta) of about three and-a-half years were brought to Nandankanan Zoo from Singapore Zoo on 16th May 1995. During regular inspection it was observed that the vulval lips of Pompeta were abnormally edematous and ulcerated one and-a-half month prior to delivery and persisted until 15 days after delivery. The ulcerations may have been due to irritation, scratching and her sitting posture. The wound was treated by spraying betadine 5% (Povidone-Iodine) lotion repeatedly to prevent suppuration. The vulval lips were normal after 30 days of delivery. It was reported that, during first pregnancy also there was edematous swelling of vulva which did not persist until delivery, rather it was intermittent without any ulceration.

Roberts (1971) stated that edema of vulva normally occurs when the cows approach parturition due to the effect of increased oestrogen and relaxin. In this case also the condition may be attributed to the effect of gonadal hormones. Estimation of hormones was not possible since the male did not permit the separation of female.

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