Evaluation of Possible Post Parturient Elevations of Locomotion Score

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Lameness is one of the major problems of dairy herds in the world and following infertility and mastitis is the most important cause of losses in dairy farming. Stage of lactation recorded as one of the most important risk factors of this condition as most of lamenesses occur in the first 3 month of lactation. Parturition problems and edema may potentially increase walking pattern and locomotion score.

The present study aimed at evaluation of locomotion score of cows after parturition and its comparison with other days of milking.

Study was performed in a dairy herd with 1600 milking cows with average production of 35 liter/day milk. The locomotion score, based on five point scale Bpcocher system was recorded and compared in three groups (group 1: days in milk 1-16, group 2: days in milk 17-30 and group 3: days in milk 31-100 days). All data was compared with Chi-Square in SigmaStat software and P<0.05 considered as significant level. The frequency of scores <3 (63.9 ± 10.2, 88.1 ± 11.3 and 86.6 ± 6.8 in groups one, two and three respectively) and score 3 (12.8 ± 5.1, 15.4 ± 10.3 and 10.9 ± 5.1 in groups one, two and three respectively) revealed a significant difference as this significantly recorded between groups two and three. No significant difference has been recorded in other groups between other scores.

No false increase in locomotion score happened after parturition and as other studies the highest locomotion scores are in higher days in milk.

Key words: Locomotion Score, Parturition