

PRESERVATION OF BUFFALO BULL SEMEN

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Genetic improvement among the indigenous buffaloes could be brought about by resorting to artificial insemination with semen from superior bulls like Murrah and Surti.

SECTION A

The usefulness of two diluents namely Tris Egg Yolk (TEY) and Milk Egg Yolk (MEY) for the storage of buffalo spermatazoa was studied. The experimental evidence suggests that there is no significant difference between the two diluents as judged by the motility and dead sperm count. These results are in agreement with the observation made by Dubay *et al.* There was a gradual decrease in the percentage of motile sperm and an increase in percentage dead spermatazoa during storage in both TEY and MEY at 4 to 6°C. Both in Murrah and Surti, 60% motility and 27 to 28% dead spermatazoa were recorded at 96 hours in both diluents.

When the effectiveness of the diluents was assessed by the release of alkaline phosphatase from spermatazoa, it became apparent that TEY is a better medium than MEY. Little or negligible release was observed in TEY whereas in MEY the enzyme level in the seminal plasma increased by 57 to 62% as soon as dilution was completed.

These results indicate that TEY could be used as a diluent for the preservation of buffalo spermatazoa and the extended semen be used within 48 hours of storage when their motility and dead sperm count were 70 and 25% respectively.

Reference

1. Dubay *et al* (1975). Reviewed in *Indian Journal of Animal Sciences* 48 777 (1978).