

Estimation of Stage of Pregnancy by Rectal Palpation

Days of Gestation	Fetal Size (Inches)	Fetal Characteristic	Placentome	Uterine Horn Diameter (In.)	Uterine Artery (in.)
30	2/5	Large Marble (Amniotic Vesicle)		Slightly enlarged	
45	1 1/4	Hen's Egg (Amniotic Vesicle)			
60	5 to 6	Mouse		2 1/2 to 3 1/2 (Banana)	
90	5 to 6	Rat	3/4 to 1 Bag of marbles	4 to 5	1/8 to 3/16
120	10 to 12	Small Cat	1 1/2 Feel like a quarter	5 to 7	1/4 (Pencil)
150	12 to 16	Large Cat	2 to 2 1/2 Feel like half dollar	6 to 8	1/4 to 3/8
180	20 to 24	Small Dog			3/8 to 1/2 (Index Finger)
210	24 to 32				1/2
240	28 to 36				1/2 to 5/8 (Thumb)
270	28 to 38				1/2 to 3/4

The only positive signs of pregnancy in the cow are fetus, placentomes, amniotic vesicle and fetal membrane slip.

The following are not positive signs of pregnancy:

1. Presence of fluid in horn.
2. Presence of corpus luteum on ovary.
3. Fremitus (hypertrophy of middle uterine artery). Fremitus is a palpable vibration (fluid turbulence within artery) that gives a “buzz” feeling to the artery. The middle uterine artery is in the broad ligament and moveable. Do not confuse with the iliac artery which is **not** moveable.