New Videotape on Equine Fetal Sexing Expands School’s Educational Tools

A new 21-minute instructional videotape produced by faculty at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine guides veterinarians through the process of identifying equine fetal gender using ultrasonography techniques. Transabdominal Ultrasonographic Determination of Fetal Gender in the Horse During Mid-Gestation outlines detailed information about ultrasound equipment, preparation of the mare for the procedure, and male/female fetal anatomy as seen through ultrasonographic imagery. Drawings also assist instructors and veterinarians in interpretation of images.

The videotape is a collaborative work by equine reproduction specialist Catherine Renaudin, DVM, equine ultrasonographer Carol Gillis, DVM, PhD, and fetal ultrasound expert Alice Tarantal, PhD.

The $75 videotape, available in the VHS or PAL format, joins a growing list of multimedia instructional tools produced by UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine faculty for professional use.

Other recent products include Poisonous Plants, A Veterinary Guide to Toxic Syndromes, distributed by Iowa State Press (Macintosh and Windows) and Equine Osteology: An Interactive Atlas of the Thoracic and Pelvic Limbs (Macintosh).

For more information about the fetal sexing videotape or instructional software titles contact the Office of Academic Programs, (530) 752-1324, svmacadprog@ucdavis.edu, or visit the online catalog (www.calf.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/HTML_docs/html/software.html).

A new videotape produced collaboratively by three UC Davis faculty members shows how fetal gender identification is now possible to allow breeders to plan ahead for the future of a foal based on its sex. Fetal ultrasonic anatomy is described in detail from heart to hind quarter with characteristic ultrasonic images for identification of both the male and female. Each image includes a drawing that shows the probe position in relation to the fetus in utero. The ultrasonogram (left) is a cross-sectional view of the abdomen of a 167-day fetus at the level of the stomach.

Catherine Renaudin captures a freeze-frame ultrasonogram of a developing equine fetus (inset, right). Dr. Renaudin has documented the normal development of various fetal organs throughout gestation in order to allow early detection of abnormalities and complications of pregnancy.

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