

EMBRYO TRANSFER IN EGYPT: SUCCESS AND CONSTRAINTS

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Embryo transfer is analogous to artificial insemination in livestock. The impact of embryo transfer technique is much less than artificial insemination with respect to genetic improvement in a population.

The first attempt of embryo transfer in Egypt has been carried out in 1982 in cattle

Success of embryo transfer depends mainly on the coordination of many separate components such as detection of heat, synchronization of ovulation, super ovulation, embryo collection and embryo evaluation.

The problems incurrent in embryo transfer are now biological rather than technical, and embryo yield is still highly variable and unpredictable.

Pregnant mare serum gonadotrophin and follicle stimulating hormone are the most widely used agents for superovulation in cow and buffalo.

Results of ovarian response and embryo yield in cows treated with these hormone are controversial. Some scientists collected more embryos (2-7 embryos/flush) using FSH while others achieved better results (4-8 embryos/flush) by using PMSG treatment.

Non-responded animals to exogenous gonadotrophin treatment constitute an obstacle in developing embryo transfer program. Enormous variability of ovarian responses following superovulation constitute the primary limiting factor of the success of embryo transfer in both buffaloes and cows.