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Articles

Fertility of sheep given antisera to steroids during anoestrus

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The incidence of oestrus (6/46) and ovulation (14/46) in ewes given antisera to androstenedione, oestrone, oestradiol and testosterone either separately or as a mixture of these sera at the time of treatment with progestagen sponges alone or progestagen sponges followed by LH-RH was similar to that of control ewes (2/13 and 6/13 respectively). The number of corpora lutea (CL) recorded for those ewes that did ovulate was, however, greater in the antiserum-treated ewes (22 CL/14 ewes) than in the controls (6 CL/6 ewes) at the first ovulation after sponge withdrawal. This superiority persisted to the second ovulation (53 CL/42 treated ewes compared to 13 CL/13 controls). The results for groups treated with antisera did not differ amongst themselves.

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