



UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS PALMAS
DE GRAN CANARIA



Instituto Canario
de Investigaciones
Agrarias
Gobierno de Canarias

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

**Argüello, A., Castro, N., Morales-delaNuez, A., Moreno-Indias, I., Sánchez-Macías, D.,
Krupij, A., Ruiz-Díaz, M.D., Hernández-Castellano, L.E. and Capote, J.**

Crete, 2010

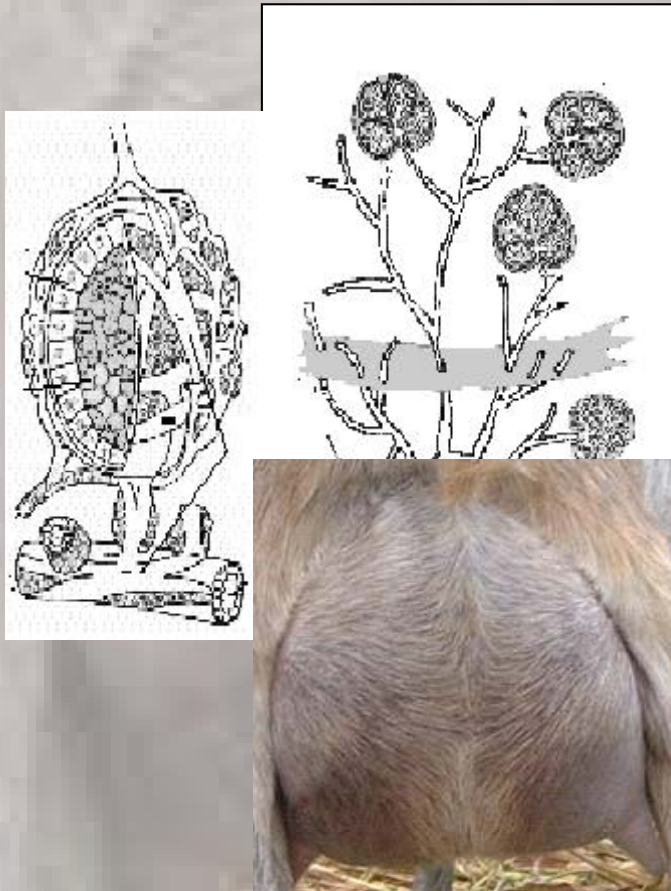
Structural differentiation of the mammary gland is regulated by hormonal balances

De Louis *et al.* (1980)



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Formation of lobulo-alveolar structure



➤ Secretory activity

➤ Hypertrophy of epithelial cells

De Louis *et al.* (1980)

Hormonal control on the mammary gland differentiation

De Louis *et al.* (1980)

Stricker, P., and F. Grueter. 1928. Action du lobe antérieur de l'hypophyse sur la montée laiteuse. *C. R. Acad. Sci. Biol.* 99:1078

Cowie, A. T. 1970. Influence of hormones on mammary growth and milk secretion. Page 123 in *Lactation*, I. R. Falconer, ed. Butterworths. London.

Denamur, R. 1971. Reviews of the progress of dairy science. Section A. Physiology. Hormonal control of lactogenesis. *J. Dairy Res.* 38:237.



<http://www.greenpeace.org/mexico/news/ma-z-que-da-a-a-las-ratas-fue>

Hormonal activity of the feto-placental unit on the control of the mammary gland function



De Louis *et al.* (1980)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

**Development of lobuloalveolar
(~ 80 d gestation)**

**Cellular multiplication increase
(> 120 d gestation)**

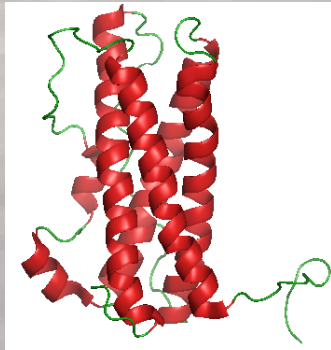
**Development of lobuloalveolar
(~ 150 d gestation)**

**Development nearly complete
(~ end of gestation)**

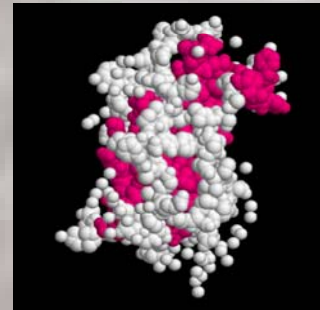


Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

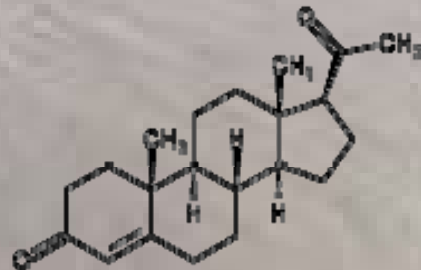
Several hormones play an important role in the mammary gland development



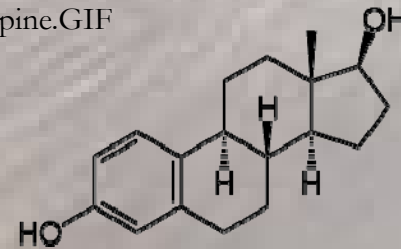
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/02/PRL_structure.png



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Somatotropine.GIF>



<http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archivo:Progesterone.png>



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Estradiol2.png>

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Relation Between Hormones and Mammary Gland Function

C. DE LOUIS, J. DJIANE, L. M. HOUEBINE,
and M. TERQUI¹

I.N.R.A

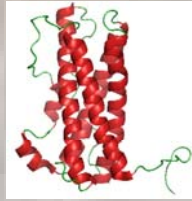
Laboratoire de Physiologie de la Lactation
78350 Jouy-en-Josas
France

1980 J Dairy Sci 63:1492–1513

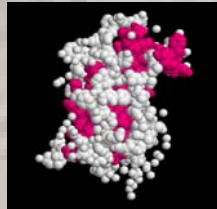
“The feto-placental unit provides the major part of the estrogenic signal from which the epithelial mammary cell is differentiated in presence of hormones (PrL, GH, Progesterone, Placental lactogen and adrenal corticosteroids)...”

Placental growth is crucial for udder development

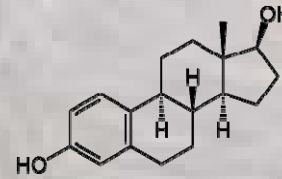
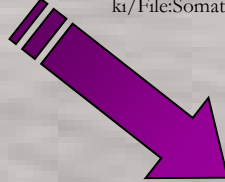
Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development



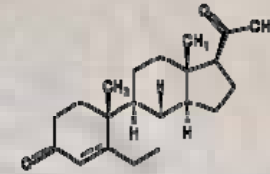
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/02/PRL_structure.png



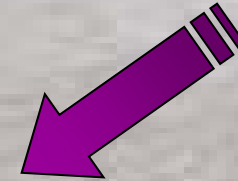
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Somatotropine.GIF>



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Estradiol2.png>



<http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archivo:Progesterone.png>



ENDOCRINE AXIS

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

“The feto-placental unit provides the major part of the estrogenic signal from which the epithelial mammary cell is differentiated in presence of hormones (PrL, GH, Progesterone, **PLACENTAL LACTOGEN** and adrenal corticosteroids)...”



↘ Placental lactogen (PL)



➤ Mammogenic

➤ Lactogenic

Denamur and Martinet (1970)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Placental lactogen (PL)



2 Br- α ergocryptine

Second half gestation

DNA content of mammary gland similar
at parturition than untreated animals

(Buttle *et al.*, 1979; Djiane *et al.*, 1975)

Placental lactogen (PL)

Mammary gland development induced
by using of ovarian steroids injections



(De Louis *et al.*, 1980)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Ruminant placental lactogens: structure and biology

J. C. Byatt, W. C. Warren, P. J. Eppard, N. R. Staten, G. G. Krivi and R. J. Collier

J Anim Sci 1992. 70:2911-2923.

Occurrence of PL

Primata



Rodentia



<http://www.greenpeace.org/mexico/news/maz-que-da-a-a-las-ratas-fue>



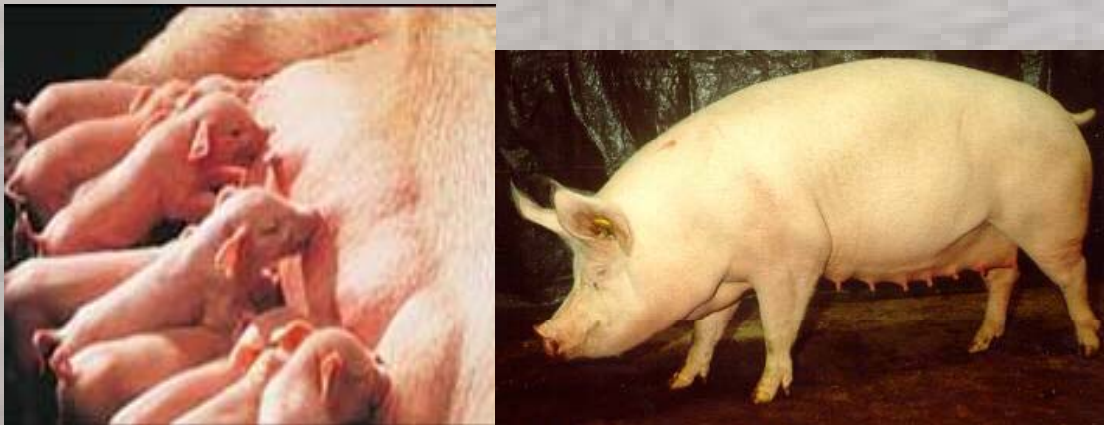
Artiodactyla



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

**No demonstrated lactogenic activity in
placenta of pigs**

(Tiedemann, 1979; Dantzer, 1985)



Porcine placenta lacks binucleate cells

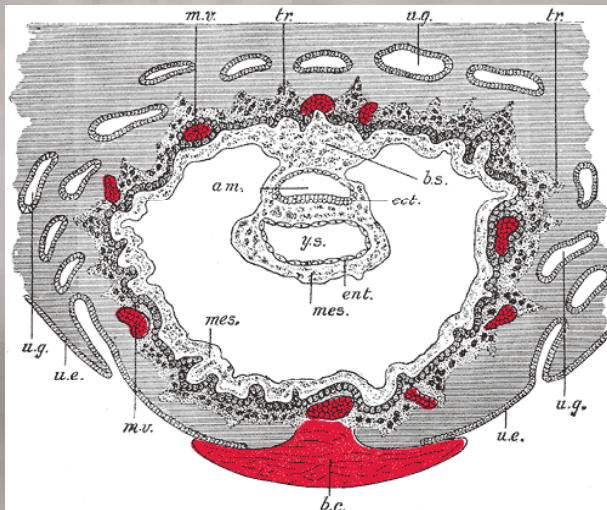
Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Ruminant Placental lactogens

➤ Somatotropin, prolactin gene family

(GH / PRL)

➤ Trophectodermal binucleate cells



- Secreted into fetal and maternal circulations



Ruminant Placental lactogens

- In fetus decreases with advancing gestation
- In maternal circulation peaks the last third of pregnancy



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Ovine and caprine PL 23 kDa



Buttle *et al.* (1972)



Forsyth (1974); Kelly *et al.* (1974)

Fetal PL levels are 100 times lower than maternal levels

(Butler *et al.*, 1981; Currie *et al.*, 1990)

Higher maternal PL concentration than in cows

(Byatt *et al.*, 1986, 1992)

➤ Bovine PL (bPL) 31-33 kDa

(Beckers *et al.*, 1974; Murphy *et al.*, 1982; Arima and Bremel, 1983)

- 200 amino-acid long glycoprotein
- Secreted into fetal and maternal circulation
- 6 isoelectric variants in cotyledonary extracts (pI: 4.85-6.3)
- 3 isoforms in fetal sera (pI: 4.85-5.25)
- Heavily glycosylated

(Byatt *et al.*, 1986, 1992)



bPL levels are higher in fetal than in maternal compartments

(Beckers *et al.*, 1982)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Ruminant Placental lactogens

Table 2. Physiochemical characteristics of ruminant placental lactogens

Species	Molecular wt by SDS-PAGE	Molecular wt estimated from primary sequence	pI ^a	Glycosylated
Bovine	31,00–34,000	22,968	4.8–8.3 ^b	Yes
Ovine	22,000–23,000	22,469	6.8 ^c , 8.8 ^d , 9.2 ^e	No
Caprine	22,500	ND ^f	8.0–8.4 ^g	ND

^aIsoelectric point.

^bByatt et al., 1986.

^cHurley et al., 1977a.

^dChan et al., 1976.

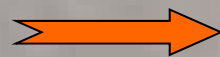
^eWarren et al., 1990a.

^fND = not determined.

^gCurrie et al., 1990.

(Byatt *et al.*, 1992)

Lost or alteration of glycosylation may produce changes of PL



In its intracellular signaling



Transformation of agonist to antagonist

(Alvarez-Oxiley *et al.*, 2008)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Bovine PL (bPL)

The specific role of glycosylation of bPL
has not yet been deeply investigated



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

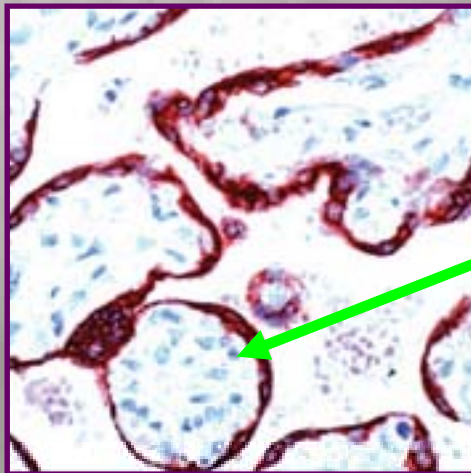
➤ Bovine PL (bPL): synthesis and secretion

- mRNA is transcribed in trophoblastic cells

After 30 days of pregnancy

- 95% binucleate cells express bPL proteins

> 60 days of gestation



hPL

http://www.google.ch/imgres?imgurl=http://www.labvision.com/images/thcimage/9067.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.labvision.com/ab.cfm%3Ffirst%3DAntiBody%26second%3D9067&usq=__fD4NjFTI4pwlHMVfYHs8QZ5GjUg=&ch=175&w=175&sz=15&hl=de&start=231&itbs=1&tbnid=EWTtVzftQwW32M:&tbnh=100&tbnw=100&prev=/images%3Fq%3Digg%26plazenta%26start%3D220%26hl%3Dde%26sa%3DN%26gbv%3D2%26ndsp%3D20%26tbs%3Disch:1

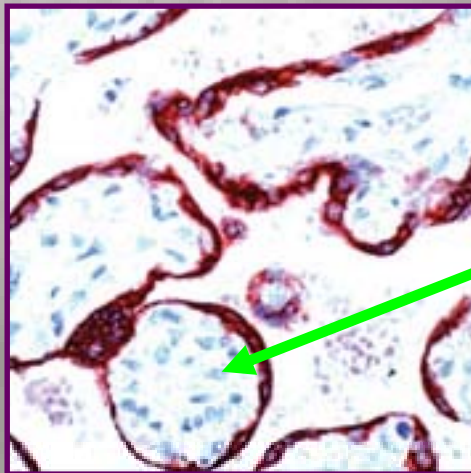
Stored in membrane-bound
secretory granules in BNC

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Bovine PL (bPL): synthesis and secretion

PL proteins stored in membrane-bound secretory granules in BNC

- May enter in maternal circulation by exocytosis of granules
- Mechanism by which enter in fetal circulation is unclear



The mechanism controlling the synthesis and secretion must be elucidated

http://www.google.ch/imgres?imgurl=http://www.labvision.com/images/thcimage/9067.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.labvision.com/ab.cfm%3Ffirst%3DAntiBody%26second%3D9067&usq=__fD4NjFTtH4pwlHMVfYHs8QZ5GjUg=&ch=175&w=175&sz=15&hl=de&start=231&itbs=1&itbnid=EWTtVzftQwW32M:&itbnh=100&itbnw=100&prev=/images%3Fq%3Digg%2Bplazenta%26start%3D220%26hl%3Dde%26sa%3DN%26gbv%3D2%26ndsp%3D20%26tbs%3Disch:1

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Ruminant Placental lactogens

Synthesis and secretion

Late gestation  BNC expressing oPL

Fetal cortisol regulates the number of BNC

 May control oPL production

(Braun *et al.*, 2007; Ward *et al.*, 2002)



Mechanism of control has not yet been elucidated

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Pattern of maternal PL concentration

↑ Gestational age

Peak during last trimester

↓ At partum



(Kaplan and Grumbach, 1965)



(Ogren *et al.*, 1989; Robertson *et al.*, 1990)

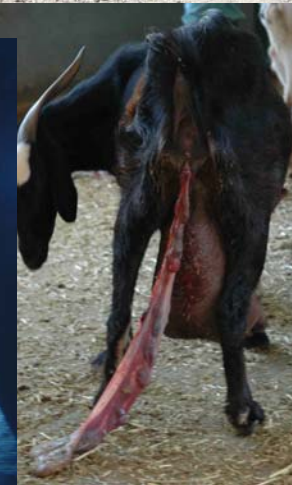


(Beckers *et al.*, 1982; Currie *et al.*, 1990;
Handwerger *et al.*, 1977)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Peripheral bPL concentration

- Gestation stage
- Placental mass
- Fetal weight
- Litter size
- Nutritional status



(Alvarez-Oxiley *et al.*, 2008)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

Placental lactogens biological activities

- Studied in rodents



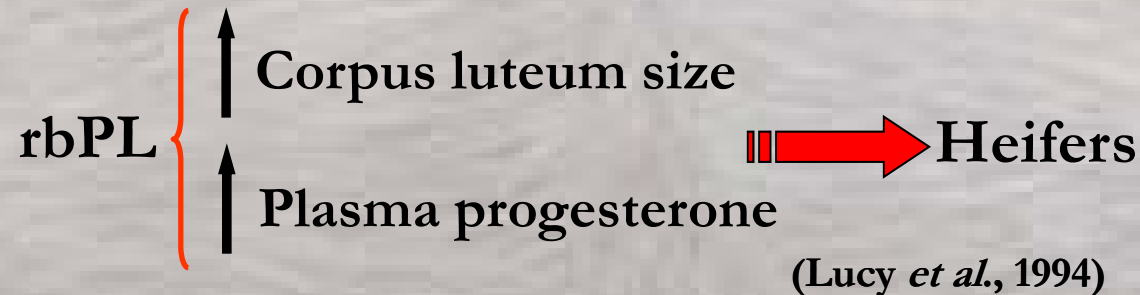
Linzer and Fisher (1999)

- * Luteotrophic activity
- * Mammogenesis
- * Lactogenesis
- * Fetal growth

In ruminants biological functions are not fully understood

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Luteal function



oPL: No effects on P_4 secretion

(Waters *et al.*, 1985)

PL-mediated signaling system in Corpus luteum in cows

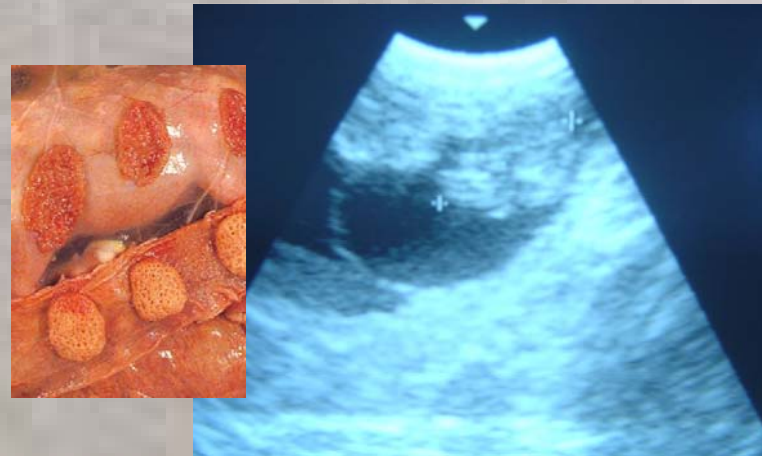
In ruminants biological functions are not fully understood

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Pregnancy-maternal adaptation

- To maintain nutrients supply for fetal development
- Nutrients partitioning

(Rasby *et al.*, 1990)



In ruminants biological functions are not fully understood

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Pregnancy-maternal adaptation

Effect of nutrition



Low BCS

Moderate BCS

Uterine mass lower in low BCS cows

Higher PL in low BCS cows to increase the availability
of nutrients in the fetal unit

(Rasby *et al.*, 1990)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Pregnancy-maternal adaptation

Effect of nutrition



Underfed

Wellfed

No plasma PL concentration difference

Underfed group delayed the PL decrease before partum

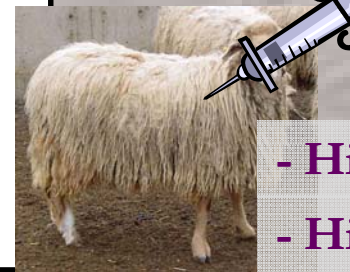
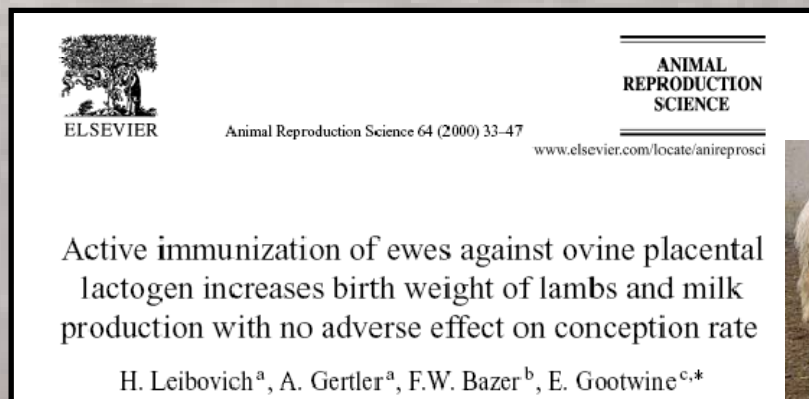
Underfeeding reduced the colostrum accumulation
and production

(Mellor *et al.*, 1987)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Fetal growth

- Stimulates uptake of maternal nutrients to the fetus
- Stimulates the fetus to use the nutrients



roPL

- Higher birth weight
- Higher milk yield

> oPL concentration in feto-placental compartment

In ruminants biological functions are not fully understood

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

- Lactogenic hormones



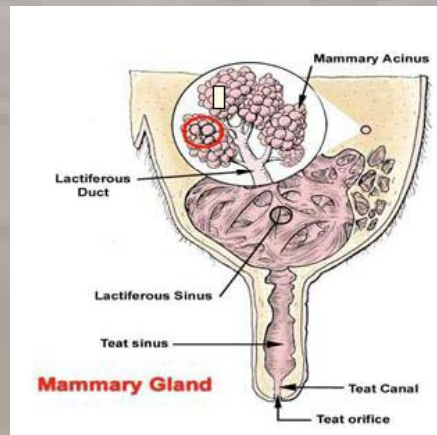
Full lobulo-alveolar growth

- Ovarian steroids



Ductal growth

(Connor *et al.*, 2007; Cowie *et al.*, 1966; Kohmoto and Bern, HA; Mulac-Jericevic *et al.*, 2003)



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

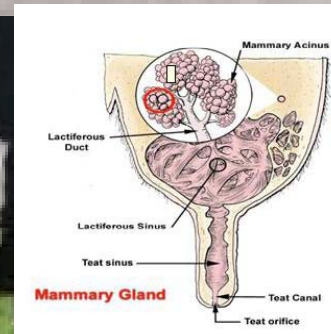
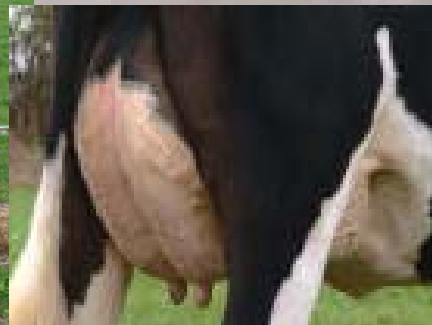
➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

- Bromocriptine treatment during the later half of gestation

↪ Mammogenesis not inhibited

bPL: Potential substitute for pituitary PRL !!!!

(Schams *et al.*, 1984)



In ruminants biological functions are not fully understood

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

- Mammary development is unaffected by deletion of PRL

PL stimulate or support mammogenesis

(Buttle *et al.*, 1978; Forsyth *et al.*, 1985; Martal and Djiane, 1977; Schams *et al.*, 1984)



Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

rbPL > bPRL → Mitogenic activity

bPRL > rbPL → Milk synthesis

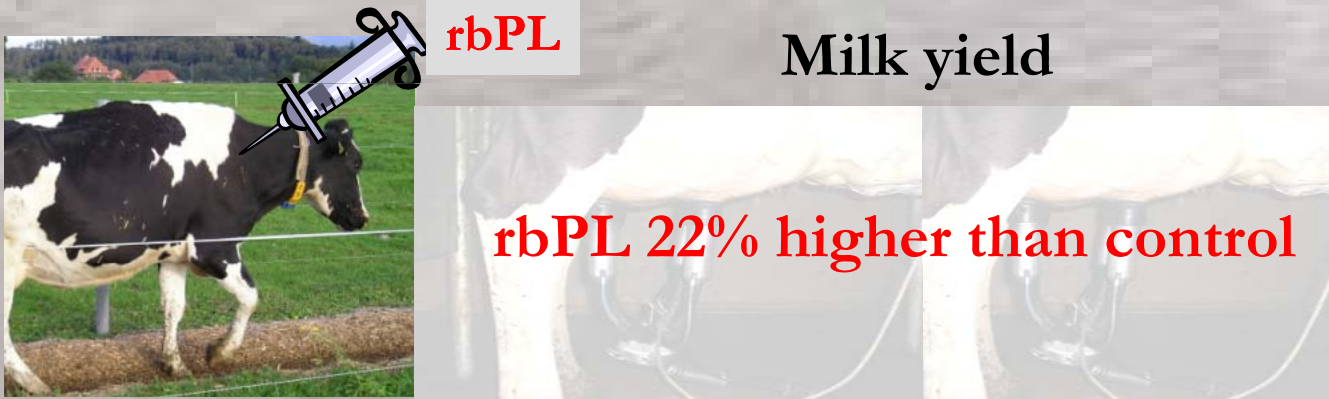
(Byatt *et al.*, 1994)

Exogenous rbPL may or may not increase the milk yield

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

Heifers treated with steroids to induce lactation



bPL is less potent than bGH increasing the milk yield

(Byatt *et al.*, 1992, 1997)

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

➤ Mammogenesis and lactogenesis

The Effect of Recombinant Bovine Placental Lactogen
on Induced Lactation in Dairy Heifers

J. C. BYATT, R. H. SORBET, P. J. EPPARD, T. L. CURRAN,
D. F. CURRAN, and R. J. COLLIER
Protiva, A Unit of Monsanto Company,
700 Chesterfield Village Parkway North, St. Louis, MO 63198

JOURNAL OF ANIMAL SCIENCE
The Premier Journal and Leading Source of New Knowledge and Perspective in Animal Science

Ruminant placental lactogens: structure and biology

J. C. Byatt, W. C. Warren, P. J. Eppard, N. R. Staten, G. G. Krivi and R. J. Collier

J Anim Sci 1992, 70:2911-2923.

bPL

No effect on lipolysis

Increase DM intake

bGH

Increase plasma NEFA

Increase plasma glucose

No effect on DM intake

Galatopoietic effect of bPL may be by increase of DM intake

SUMMARY

- Ruminant PL have lactogenic and somatogenic properties mediated through prolactin and somatotropin receptors
- Ruminant PL have biological activities mediated through specific binding sites
- PL levels are different in maternal and fetal compartments

SUMMARY

- In small ruminants maternal PL concentration

is higher than in cows

and it is proportional to placenta mass and

it depends on the number of fetuses.

Although PL concentration in the maternal circulation

is influenced by other factors, such as nutritional status

Placental-Udder axis: role on colostrum production and lactation development

FUTURE

PL is involved in several biological activities

- To characterized the binding sites
- To clarify the relationship between PL
and colostrum production

A close-up photograph of a horse's head, focusing on its eye and the texture of its coat and mane. The horse has a dark coat with a lighter, wavy mane. The text "THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION" is overlaid in a white box with a black border.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION