

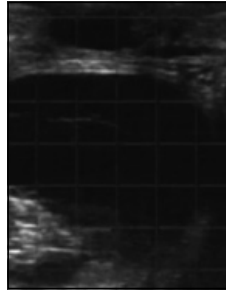
Fetal Sexing Quick Guide

Using ultrasound for fetal sex determination can be useful to herd management programs. You can estimate the number of replacement heifers, further justify the culling of a cow with chronic disease (mastitis, lameness, etc.), and determine pricing for a sale and/or purchase. Fetal sex is determined by evaluating the location and structure of the genital tubercle (precursor to the penis and clitoris) with an ultrasound machine.

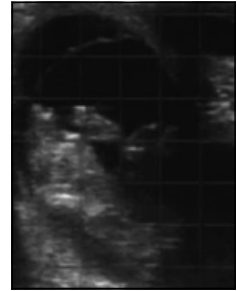
Fetal sex can be determined as early as 55 days post conception and up to approximately 110 days. The ideal time frame to diagnose fetal sex is between 55 and 70 days.

Position the fetus

- Position the fetus toward the top center of the screen to maximize image quality. The linear probe of Easi-Scan gives a better quality image the closer the probe is to the fetus. The closer the fetus is to the bottom of the screen, the less likely you will be able to determine the sex of the fetus.
- Position the fetus at the top of your screen by moving the probe around the outside of the uterus until you see the fetus move to the top of your screen. Sometimes it works best to be under the uterus so the weight of the pregnancy is pushing towards the probe.



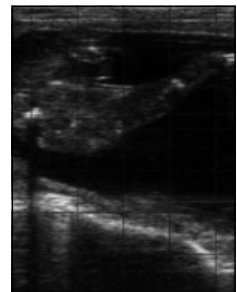
Fetus at the bottom



Fetus in the middle



Fetus at the top

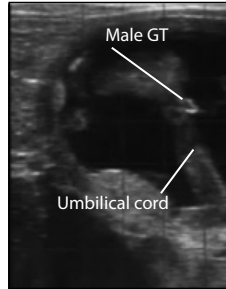


Your complete animal imaging solution

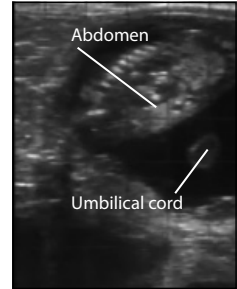
Fetal Sexing Quick Guide

Male fetus determination

- It is easier to identify males so you should always start by checking for a male genital tubercle (GT). If you do not see a distinct male feature, you can then look to confirm it is female.
- The male and female GT have a similar appearance. The location is key to determining between male and female.
- Start by identifying the umbilical cord, and follow it into the abdomen. Look closely at the area where the umbilical cord connects to the fetus.
- You should be looking for:
 - The male GT, it appears as two bright white parallel lines (bi-lobed structure), it can appear tri-lobed in older fetuses
 - It is located at the base of the umbilical cord
 - The scrotum is located between the hind limbs.



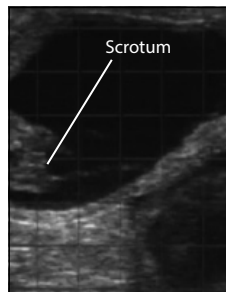
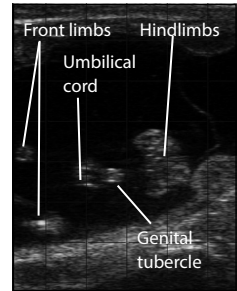
Umbilical cord connected



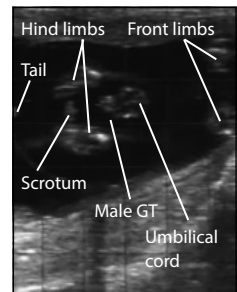
Umbilical cord looking unconnected



Male GT

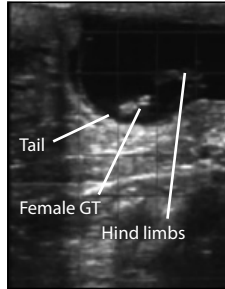


Scrotum

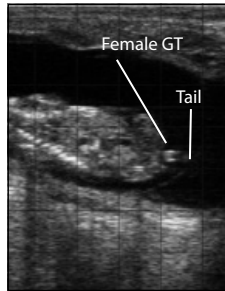
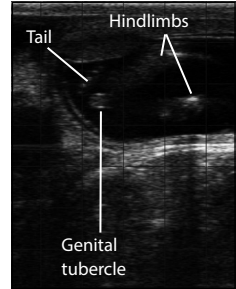


Female fetus determination

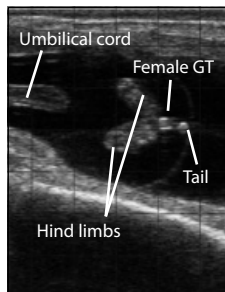
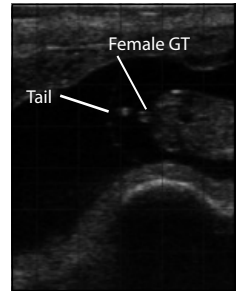
- To identify a female fetus, start by searching the tail region.
- You should be looking for:
 - The female GT, it appears as two bright white parallel lines (bi-lobed structure),
 - It is located behind the hind limbs and under the tail
- Once tail is located, try to see both the tail and female GT at the same time. This ensures you are not incorrectly identifying the tail as the female GT.
- Once you have identified the tail and female GT you should locate the hind limbs. This ensures you are not confusing a leg bone with a female GT.



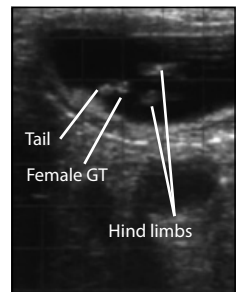
Female GT



Tail and GT



Tail, GT and hind limbs



Your complete animal imaging solution

Visit our IMV imaging Academy at www.imv-imaging.com for a wide range of clinical guides and materials.

This quick guide is intended to help you start the learning process of identifying fetal sex. Training courses that cover this topic are available to help you advance your skills.

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