Twins Born

to Radhika

The Saga of Sadhu

New Admissions
“Milk is compared to nectar, which one can drink to become immortal. Of course, simply drinking milk will not make one immortal, but it can increase the duration of one’s life.

“In modern civilization, men do not think milk to be important, and therefore they do not live very long. Although in this age men can live up to one hundred years, their duration of life is reduced because they do not drink large quantities of milk.

“In Kali-yuga, instead of drinking milk, people prefer to slaughter an animal and eat its flesh. The Supreme Personality of Godhead, in His instructions of Bhagavad-gita, advises go-raksya, which means cow protection. The cow should be protected, milk should be drawn from the cows, and this milk should be prepared in various ways.

“One should take ample milk, and thus one can prolong one’s life, develop his brain, execute devotional service, and ultimately attain the favor of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

“As it is essential to get food grains and water by digging the earth, it is also essential to give protection to the cows and take nectarean milk from their milk bags.”

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada,
Purport to Srimad-Bhagavata 8.6.11

Care for Cows in Vrindavana is a Charitable Trust registered in India, USA, Holland and Switzerland.
~ Portrait of the Month ~

~ Campaka Lata ~
When Radhika and Janardana arrived at Care for Cows we searched the internet for information on Neel Gai (*boselaphus tragocamelus*). There we learned that Neel Gai, also known as Blue Cows/Bulls are the largest antelope in Asia and have been exported to Texas.

We read that while the females can conceive at about two-years of age the males cannot impregnate until after they are three-years-old.

Our orphaned young antelopes were bottle-fed at least two liters
of cow’s milk daily for one year and grew healthy and to date have never been sick for even a day.

At about fifteen-months-old Janardana started mounting Radhika, several cows and even cowherd men. However, we dismissed it as that behavior is also seen among calves at three or four-months of age.

In any case when Radhika started to get plump cries of doubt would arise owing to the information we obtained on the internet. Some would say, “Janardana is too young...” while others would comment that Radhika was just eating well.

Our Neel Gais arrived in mid-September 2006 when they were about two-weeks old. That makes them twenty-eight months-old today.

The gestation period for Neel Gais is the same as cows: ten months. How could they conceive if they were only eighteen-months-old?

About two months ago one of the cowherd women felt movement in Radhika’s swelled abdomen while grooming her. About a week ago her udder became visibly swollen and flushed bright. With all doubt gone we now prepared to greet her offspring.

Early in the morning on January 17 she went to a secluded place in the goshalla accompanied by two cowherd men and sat down and delivered twins. She welcomed human assistance and very dutifully licked her calves clean.
The great Blue Bull who defied all statistics by siring the twins at eighteen-months-old also arrived to witness the birth of his sons.

It was a happy occasion and after the twins were cleaned and nursed, several cows arrived to welcome them into the herd.

Most of the day the twins share a private pen with their mother but often they sit in the barn yard taking in the morning sun or nestled in a mound of hay.

Could it be that the reason Radhika and Janardana conceived so early was due to the abundant cow’s milk they ingested during their first year?
Sadhu came by bullock cart from the village of Kiki Nagla where he suffered a leg injury, more specifically, a broken tibia. One of the villagers took the time to fashion a cast from rope and bamboo but as most casts on the tibia, it had gradually fallen below the fracture and was ineffective.

The one-year-old bull was carefully unloaded, placed in the recuperating ward and fed. His well-crafted cast was removed and his wound was cleaned. Examination revealed that there were several bone fragments that needed to be removed.

Dr. Lavania arrived the next day and after examination decided Sadhu should be sent to the Mathura Veterinary College Hospital and treated by Dr. R.P. Pandey who has developed an effective method of treating
Sadhu has turned out to be one of the most peaceful and equipoised patients to date. Shortly after his surgery, Rabin Bangoer from the Netherlands joined our Life Adoption Program (LAP) and volunteered to sponsor Sadhu for his whole life. A Fixed Deposit has been made for this purpose.
fractured tibia by inserting a steel pin through surgical procedure using radiology.

Dr. Pandey assisted by two other veterinarians and several students who sterilized all the instruments and cloth used in the surgery. Together they labored for two hours to get the pin in the correct place. Since the fracture was a longitudinal split, it was a complicated case. Their dedication was inspiring.

Sadhu is an inspiring patient. During the whole ordeal of examination, shaving, radiology, injections and the surgery, he remained cooperative and calm as though confident that we were all trying our best to help him. He was completely equipoised, not questioning why his leg had been broken, why he had been brought to the hospital, why he was being operated on, or if the operation would be successful. He was aloof and peaceful during what is no doubt the greatest crisis in his life so far.

He travelled well in return to Care for Cows where he is recuperating thus far without complication.
Ermintrude and Daisy may produce as much as 454 pints more each year than cows with no names.

In a study involving 516 dairy farmers in the UK, Dr. Catherine Douglas and Dr. Peter Rowlinson at Newcastle University found that treating cow as individuals also increased production.

Those cows with names had an average higher milk yield of 454 pints (258 litres).

Dr. Douglas said: “Just as people respond better to the personal touch, cows also feel happier and more relaxed if they are given a bit more one-to-one attention. “Many farmers dote on their cows and have long thought that such interaction helps, but it has never really been tested.

“The statistics were significantly different for those cows with name -there was nothing else which could explain it."

The study found milk yield to be lower on farms where cattle were herded as a group.

Nearly two thirds - 60% - of UK farmers said they “knew all the cows in the herd” and 48% agreed that positive human contact was more likely to produce cows with a good milking temperament.

Almost 10% said that a fear of humans resulted in a poor milking temperament.

Dr. Douglas said: “Our data suggests that on the whole UK dairy farmers regard their cows as intelligent beings capable of experiencing a range of emotions. “Placing more importance on knowing the individual animals and calling them by name can significantly increase milk production.

“Maybe people can be less self conscious and not worry about chatting to their cows.”

Dairy farmer Dennis Gibb, who owns Eachwick Red House Farm near Newcastle with his brother Richard, said treating every cow as an individual was “vitally important”.

“They aren’t just our livelihood - they’re part of the family,” he said. “We love our cows and every one of them has a name.

“Collectively we refer to them as ‘our ladies’ but we know every one of them and each one has her own personality."

NOTE: I have been told by cowherd men in Mexico that cows produce more milk if one sings to them during milking time! Swiss dairy farmers have found that milk production increases when music is piped into the cowshed.
We were alerted about this lame bull about two weeks ago when he was sighted on the Chatikkara-Vrindavan highway. His left rear leg has been amputated below the knee and he has a hard time moving about. Because of the present construction along the highway and the thick vegetation bordering the many trenches we were not able to find him until a week ago.

Some local people helped us load him on our truck and he is now staying with us in Sundrakh. He is very gentle and passive and very happy to be here as he no longer has to struggle for his quota of food.

He is about four-years-old and stays with Madhu and Radha Raman who are also amputees.
Left is a young, anemic female calf who was brought in from the Vidya Pit area. She is frail, timid and emaciated.

Below is an orphaned four-month-old female calf from a neighboring village. Her name is Champak Lata.
Right is a year-old female calf who has an injured rear leg. Several small bone fragments have been removed and the wound is now free from pus and healing well.

Below-right is a year-old spotted bull who admitted himself one afternoon during feeding time.

None of these kine are sponsored. Anyone interested to sponsor them have the right to name them.
May cows stay in front of me; may cows stay behind me; may cows stay on both sides of me. May I always reside in the midst of cows. —Hari Bhakti Vilas 16.252