Pregnancy diagnosis in Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*)

Chatchoke Thitaram

*Elephant Research and Education Center, Department of Companion and Wild Animals Clinics, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Chiang Mai University*

**Abstract** Pregnancy diagnosis in Asian elephant (*Elephas maximus*) is rather difficult, particular during the first period of pregnancy (5-7 months), due to the size of the body, long gestation up to 22 months without externally anatomical change. This article reviews the various pregnancy diagnostic methods including anatomical changes, hormone measurements and ultrasonography. These techniques would be beneficial for the management during pregnancy and parturition, which resulted in healthy and alive elephant calf born.

**Keywords:** Pregnancy diagnosis, Asian elephants, Ultrasonography, Hormone measurement