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**HISTOLOGICAL CHANGES OF THE UTERI AND OVARIES  
IN FUR SEALS, WITH SPECIAL  
REFERENCE TO THE MULTIPAROUS CHANGES**

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Gross and histological analyses of the ovaries and reproductive tracts from 29 female fur seals, collected in the western Pacific Ocean off northern Japan from January to May, have been used to clarify the histological changes of the ovaries and uterine horns in pregnancy and after parturition.

The results may be summarised as follows:

1) The corpora lutea of pregnancy, corpora albicantia and white scars were macroscopically distinguished in the ovaries.

2) The histological results obtained made clear that the corpora albicantia and white scars were old corpora lutea, because the corpora albicantia contained degenerated luteal cells and a stellate central core of connective tissues which seems to have been reduced from the septa of the corpus luteum.

3) The corpora albicantia and white scars were classified in four types according to the degree of regressive changes. The fourth type was the oldest one and seemed to remain until five years after ovulation, as four corpora albicantia were found in both ovaries of a fur seal.

4) The uterine horns were histologically divided into three groups according to the occurrence of each type of blood vessel which was classified by their regressive changes. Group A of the uterine horns usually had only normal vessels in the endo- and myometrium, group B included a number of regressive vessels, and group C contained more numerous, regressive vessels with characteristic regressive changes.

5) Absence, or presence of one or two of the corpora albicantia in the ovary was closely related with each of the three groups of the uterine horns in either side respectively; the ovary without corpus albicans had group A of the uterine horns, another ovary with one corpus albicans related with group B, and the ovary with two corpora albicantia had group C of the uterus.

6) From the present results obtained, it was suggested that the histological changes of the uterine horns can more accurately decide the parturition history of the female fur seals than the number of corpora albicantia in the ovary, because the uterine changes seem to remain over four years after parturition.